

Will you include **Geography** in your passport to a successful future ?

How will I benefit if I take Geography as a VCE subject?

"I enjoy Geography and would like to continue but how will it help me get into university and a job?"

VCE Geography keeps your tertiary options open!

To gain admittance to a tertiary course, you first have to gain an ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank). This is calculated by adding together your Units 3 and 4 results: English, your best three other scores, and 10% of your next two best scores. In all, up to six subject scores can be used.

There are close to 700 tertiary courses.

For 97% of these tertiary courses there are no prerequisites, or less than four prerequisites.

Geography can thus count as one of your six subjects in determining your ENTER. Some examples follow:

- Psychology at Victoria University – a score of at least 20 in English and at least one subject in the science field
- Science/Commerce at La Trobe University – 'a study score of at least 20 in English, and in Specialist Mathematics or Mathematical Methods'
- Law at Monash University – 'a study score of at least 30 in English

For 3% of courses, four prerequisite VCE studies must be taken. Geography could be taken as a fifth or sixth subject. For example: Veterinary Science at University of Melbourne – 'a study score of at least 35 in each of English, chemistry, mathematical methods (either) or physics'.

Some tertiary courses provide extra recognition of completion of VCE Geography See Figure 1

Geography graduates find jobs

A survey was undertaken of university graduates who had taken geography as one of their subjects. Many of these graduates indicated it was their geography skills and training that primarily helped them to find professional employment in the areas shown in Figure 2.

Geography develops and enhances a range of valuable skills and ideas

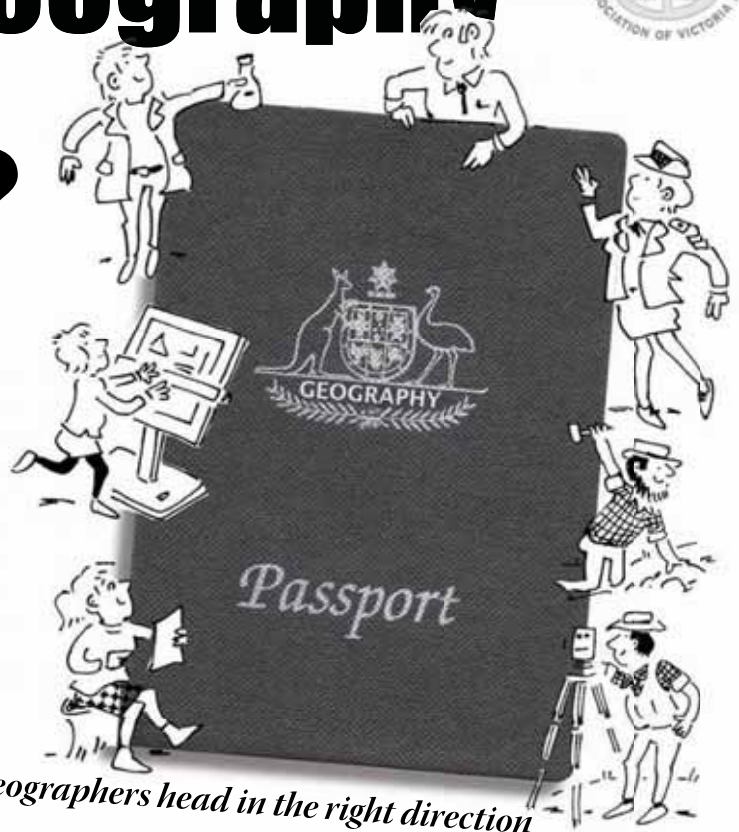
It is a challenging and interesting study which develops the ideas and skills listed in Figure 3.

Include Geography in your passport to a successful future

Typical VCE subject combinations of senior geography students over the last few years who have gone on to a broad range of careers are wide and varied (see Figure 4). These are guides only, for there are many other sensible and flexible combinations, all including Geography.

Source: Adapted from VICTER (Victorian Tertiary Entry Ranking) 2009 handbook, July 2006, VTAC

Note: Students are advised to confirm the information listed in this table in consultation with their VCE course adviser.



Tertiary Institutions / Courses providing extra recognition of completion of VCE Geography

Figure 1

- Those courses where middle-band selection procedures will occur and performance in Geography will be given a higher ranking, or the level of performance in Geography will be given consideration:

Deakin University

Consideration is given to performance in the full range of VCE studies undertaken ...

- Environmental management

LaTrobe University

- Nature Tourism
- Outdoor Education
- Physical and Outdoor Education

Humanities (any) applies for:

- Law (undergraduate entry)
- Law/Arts
- Law/Asian studies
- Law/Behavioural Science
- Law/Business
- Law/Commerce
- Law/Economics
- Law/Finance
- Law/International Relations
- Law/Media Studies
- Law/Science
- Legal Studies
- Media Studies/Asian Studies

Monash University

- Arts
- Arts/Business Information Systems
- Arts Communication
- Arts Communication/Information Technology and Systems
- Arts/Computer Science
- Arts (Global)
- Arts/Science
- Arts/Social and Community Welfare
- Behavioural Science
- Biotechnology
- Communication
- Communication/Professional Writing and Editing
- Communication/Science
- Communication/Tourism
- Communication/Information Technology and Systems
- Criminal Justice
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Science
- Health Science/Social Work
- Journalism
- Journalism/Science
- Journalism/Social and Community Welfare
- Languages
- Occupational Therapy
- Psychology and Humanities/Social and Community Welfare

- Regional and Urban Planning
- Science
- Science Advanced with Honours
- Science/Business and Commerce
- Science/Computer Science
- Science/Education (Secondary)
- Science/Education (Primary)

RMIT University

- Environment/Environmental Science
- Geomatics
- Geomatics/ Computer Science
- Multimedia Cartography
- Psychology/Applied Science

Swinburne University

- Arts
- Media and Communications
- Psychology
- Social Science

University of Ballarat

- Environmental Management
- Food Science and Technology
- Food Science and Technology/Management
- Geology
- Metallurgy

University of Melbourne

- Arts
- Arts and Sciences
- Arts/Engineering
- Arts/Geomatic Engineering
- Arts/Science
- Media and Communications
- Urban Planning and Development/Property and Construction
- Urban Planning and Development

Victoria University

- Advocacy and Mediation
- Arts
- Arts/TAFE Liberal Arts
- Human Services
- Interactive Media/TAFE Multimedia
- International Studies
- International Studies/International Trade
- Legal Studies
- Professional Writing
- Psychology/Human Resources Management
- Public Relations

Figure 2

GEOGRAPHY IN THE WORKPLACE

Science/Engineering

Remote sensing
Surveying
Meteorology
Engineering
Agricultural science
Forest science
Geology
Hydrology
Vulcanology
Seismology
Oceanography

Mathematics/Computing

Surveying
Geographical Information Systems
Remote sensing
Cartography

Commerce

Advertising
Business administration
Ecotourism
Market research
Public relations
Retailing
Transport
Manufacturing
Office management
Real estate
Mining
Land development
Industrial planning
Property management
Resource management
Energy planning

Environment

Forestry
Conservationist
Agriculture
Policy analyst
Recreation management
Wildlife management
Environment monitoring
Environment assessment
Hazard assessment
Land degradation
Waste disposal management
Energy planning

Planning/Design

Urban planner
Town planner
Social planner
Architecture
Landscape architecture
Land development
Cartography
Surveying
Transport planning
Electoral planning
Land use planning

Humanities

Law
Administration
Government services
Teaching
Politics
Diplomatic service
Journalism
Tourism
Education
Hospitality/travel
Population planning
Social work
Social planning
Emergency services

Physical geography

Hydrology
Vulcanology
Seismology
Oceanography
Meteorology

Source: The Place of Geography in Your Career Choice, AGTA, 2002

Figure 3

VCE Geography

The key ideas of VCE Geography

- assessment of resources
- planning and decision-making
- management of resources useful to people
- problem solving

This requires students to:

- think clearly and broadly
- make associations between ideas
- undertake individual inquiry as research and in the field
- make informed decisions and justify them
- process information concisely
- present a well supported point of view
- effectively present and integrate visual information

Figure 4

Subject combinations

These are guides only, for there are many other sensible and flexible combinations, all using geography

Humanities/Law

English	English	English
Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	LOTE
Politics	Literature	Politics
Legal Studies	Legal Studies	Maths

Business/commerce

English	English
Geography	Geography
Maths	Maths
Maths	Economics
Accounting	Accounting

Engineering

English
Physics
Maths
Maths
Chemistry
Geography

Graphic Design

English
Graphic Communication
Geography
Art

Architecture

English
Maths
Physics
Geography
Graphic Communication

Cartography

English
Maths
Maths
Geography
Graphic Communication

Human Science

English
Maths
Maths
Geography
Chemistry

General Science

English
Maths
Maths
Geography
Chemistry

Computing

English
Maths
Maths
Geography
Physics

Urban Planning

English
Maths
Geography
Politics
History

Figure 5

JOBS for Geographers

Name: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Job description: Environmental Scientist (Geomorphologist) for a private environmental consulting firm in Melbourne.

Education background

I completed a double degree—a Bachelor of Science with a major in environmental science and botany, and a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in physical geography. I studied subjects such as environmental hydrology, water resources, geomorphology, environmental studies and sustainable development, environmental politics and management and Geographical Information Systems.

Name: David Hicks

Job Description: Interior Designer

Educational background

I selected Geography due to its similarity to graphic design and architectural studies. This was a subject that I enjoyed as I was very interested in building and design. Mapping and investigating the erosion of materials by people and natural processes was very interesting and has helped me in my further studies. When I left school I studied for my Bachelor Arts Interior Design in Interior Design at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

Name: Bernard Salt

Job description: Director KPMG Property Melbourne.

My job involves preparation of economic impact assessments for the planning process.

Education background

I completed my VCE Geography in 1974 at Terang High School (Victoria). This was followed by Rusden Teachers College between 1976 and 1979 to complete a Bachelor of Education (Geography and History). I then moved to Monash University to complete a Master of Arts degree Geography in 1980–1984.

Name: Claire Bransgrove

Job description: Planner, Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)

Education background

In Year 12 it was one of my favourite subjects so I asked my VCE geography teachers about possible careers in geography. I studied for a Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development at Melbourne University, which I completed last year. As part of my degree I went on a study tour of Europe to experience how other cities and towns function.

Name: Linda Gregoriou

Job Description: Urban geographer and Managing Director of FTB Group Pty Limited, a property development company formed by Linda in 1997.

Education background

I studied geography through to year 12 and then completed an Arts degree at Monash University. After completing a double degree in urban geography and urban sociology, I also undertook a post-graduate course in urban design and planning at the Victorian University of Technology. I have completed a Masters in Urban Economics from Sydney's UTS.

Name: Brooke Connor

Job description: Parks Victoria Ranger, Queenscliff

Educational background

I studied geography throughout high school and then completed a Bachelor of Social Science with majors in geography and environmental science. I am currently undertaking a Graduate Diploma of Education to allow me to deliver relevant fieldwork sessions for secondary students in their geography studies.

Name: Belinda Dooley

Job description: Geographic Information Systems Development Officer.

Education background

I graduated from Monash University Melbourne with an honours degree in environmental science in 1998, majoring in geography. The degree offered at Monash was a multi-disciplinary course that provided a wide range of theory, laboratory and field knowledge across the whole spectrum of environmental science.

Name: Rebecca Bartley

Job description: Geomorphologist with CSIRO division of Land and Water based in Atherton in North Queensland.

Education background

I completed a Bachelor of Science Degree from Sydney with Honours in Physical Geography and Marine Science. I then worked for twelve months with the Department of Land and Water Conservation in NSW before heading back to complete a PhD at Monash University in Melbourne. I submitted my thesis in December 2001.

Source: Various editions of Interaction