that an undergraduate degree in geography is an excellent foundation for
economic developer, location analyst, and teacher. Many graduates find
regional planner, cartographer, demographer, resource analyst, land or
federal and state governments, and in teaching. Job titles include city
industry, in urban and regional planning agencies, in departments of
well as the background appropriate for certain vocations.
provides practical training in important contemporary areas of concern as
an important dimension to the university student’s liberal education and
environment, economy, and aesthetics. Thus, the Department contributes
sustainability through the interconnected lenses of social equity, the
context; to offer courses of study through which concepts and methods
of the locational dimensions of human behavior in their environmental
curricula with three principal objectives: to promote the understanding
vocational and society, development and
operation, and outreach are conducted with careful attention to the
UNC Greensboro (http://sustainability.uncg.edu), where “Academics,
operations, and outreach are conducted with careful attention to the
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those four areas: natural sciences, equity and society, development and
economics, and arts and humanities.
The Program degrees build on the unique definition of sustainability at
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economics, and arts and humanities.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Department of Geography, Environment, and
Sustainability is to advance understanding of the interconnected natural
and human worlds through our interdisciplinary research, teaching, and
service. GES is a student-centered department with a commitment to
rigorous classroom instruction and providing opportunities for field-
based inquiry. Our faculty are leaders in their fields who translate their
expertise into cutting-edge applied and theoretical teaching and research
in our undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs. We prepare
students for a wide range of careers and advanced research fields
including sustainability, physical geography, urban planning, Geographic
Information Science (GISc), and environmental fields.
GES believes that our work can and should contribute to a more
just, equitable, and sustainable world. We affirm UNC Greensboro’s
commitment to equal opportunity in education and employment
for all persons and actively seek to increase representation from
historically underrepresented groups. We acknowledge that fields of
study represented in GES historically have struggled to attract students
and faculty from diverse backgrounds and that the current makeup
of GES does not mirror the diversity of UNC Greensboro. We therefore
seek to create spaces that are welcoming of diversity in many forms,
including race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, geographic
origin, immigration status, socioeconomic background, political beliefs,
veteran status, disability, family status, and age.

About
The Department of Geography, Environment, and Sustainability offers
curricula with three principal objectives: to promote the understanding
of the locational dimensions of human behavior in their environmental
context; to offer courses of study through which concepts and methods
are applied to understanding economic, environmental, and social
problems at the local, regional, and global scales; and to promote
sustainability through the interconnected lenses of social equity, the
environment, economy, and aesthetics. Thus, the Department contributes
an important dimension to the university student’s liberal education and
provides practical training in important contemporary areas of concern as
well as the background appropriate for certain vocations.

Graduates of geography programs have found careers in business and
industry, in urban and regional planning agencies, in departments of
federal and state governments, and in teaching. Job titles include city
or regional planner, cartographer, demographer, resource analyst, land or
economic developer, location analyst, and teacher. Many graduates find
that an undergraduate degree in geography is an excellent foundation for
advanced graduate work or professional training in planning, business, or
law.

Graduates of environmental and sustainability programs go on to careers
in non-profits, government, and the private sector as well as to graduate
studies in a variety of disciplines. Career paths are numerous and
include advocacy, agriculture, business, design, education, enforcement,
journalism, law, nature and land protection, organizing for social and
environmental justice, tourism and recreation, etc. Our students come
from diverse backgrounds, participate regularly in internships and study
abroad, and benefit from personalized advising.

Special facilities of the department include fully equipped laboratories in
computer cartography, geographic information systems, remote sensing,
and physical geography. The Department has led annual credit-bearing
field courses since the early 1980s.

Graduate Programs
The Department of Geography, Environment, and Sustainability offers
a M.A. in Applied Geography, a M.S. in Environment and Sustainability.
A Ph.D. in Geography, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Global and
Regional Studies Geography, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in
Conservation, and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Sustainability. The
department also offers a a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Urban and
Economic Development jointly with the Department of Political Science;
for more information, see the program page at https://catalog.uncg.edu/
arts-sciences/political-science/urban-economic-development-pbc/.
The programs focus on the application of theory and methods in geography
toward the understanding of problems related to economic development,
environmental quality, population change, and social well-being in urban,
rural, regional, and international contexts.

Environment and Sustainability Program
Aaron S. Allen, Director and Honors Program Liaison
The Environment & Sustainability Program is an interdisciplinary program
that fosters understanding of the relationships between human societies
and the natural, physical, and biological settings in which life on Earth
exists. Our graduate degree (M.S.), two undergraduate majors (B.A.),
and two minors all integrate perspectives of the natural sciences, social
sciences, and arts and humanities.

The Program degrees build on the unique definition of sustainability at
UNC Greensboro (http://sustainability.uncg.edu), where “Academics,
operations, and outreach are conducted with careful attention to the
enduring interconnectedness of social equity, the environment, the
economy, and aesthetics.” Our degrees require electives in each of
those four areas: natural sciences, equity and society, development and
economics, and ethics and aesthetics.

Students work with diverse faculty and staff from across campus and
community (1) to learn how to gather and integrate information about
environmental and sustainability problems from multiple disciplines, (2)
to think critically about the causes of environmental and sustainability
problems, (3) to propose effective solutions and evaluate their strengths
and weaknesses, and (4) to communicate their ideas clearly. Our students
come from a variety of backgrounds and are eligible for internships
and study abroad, and all receive expert advising from Program faculty.
Graduates will be well prepared for roles as educated citizens who are
especially well informed about the environment and for numerous career
paths that require a broad range of knowledge about environmental and sustainability issues.

**Professor**
- Rick L. Bunch
- Keith G. Debbage
- Corey Michael Johnson
- Paul A. Knapp
- Jeffrey C. Patton
- Dan Royall
- Selima Sultana

**Associate Professor**
- Zhi-Jun Liu
- Sarah J Praskievicz

**Assistant Professor**
- Wenliang Li
- John G. Stehlin

**Senior Lecturer**
- Mary Bee Hall-Brown
- G.Jay Lennartson

**Lecturer**
- Plaxedes Chitiyo

**Senior Academic Professional**
- James A. Nelson

**Jointly-Appointed Faculty**
- Aaron S. Allen, Associate Professor (jointly appointed with the School of Music (https://catalog.uncg.edu/visual-performing-arts/music/)) and Director of Environment and Sustainability Program

- Geography, B.A. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/geography-ba/)
- Geography, B.S. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/geography-bs/)
- Environment Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/environment-minor/)
- Geography Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/geography-minor/)
- Sustainability Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/sustainability-minor/)
- Geography Second Academic Concentration (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/geography-second-academic-concentration/)
- Sustainability and Environment, M.S. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/sustainability-environment-ms/)
- Geography, Ph.D. (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/geography-phd/)
- Conservation, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/conservation-pbc/)
- Sustainability, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/geography-environment-sustainability/sustainability-pbc/)