

## WHY GEOGRAPHY AT ALGOMA U

Our four-year geography program is ideal for students interested in geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, climate change, environmental sustainability, research, and urban regional development.

Our program provides students with skills that go beyond the study of geography, including a broad understanding of numbers and numeracy, writing and research, and data presentation. Geography enthusiasts will appreciate the rich environment in which Algoma University is located. The natural landscape is marked by the St. Mary's River and the Great Lakes, as well as mountain ranges, valleys, and highlands. Our geography isn't limited to just physical spaces, either; the Algoma region boasts cultural diversity, including those of First Nations heritage. In addition, Sault Ste. Marie has also long been known throughout history as a "meeting place" and we are located directly on the border with Michigan.

Our program is aided by small class sizes, which affords students more one-on-one

time with our dedicated faculty. Our faculty are highly-qualified and are committed to teaching, research, and student success. Our program produces top quality graduates, many of whom continue onto higher education, and others who secure meaningful employment in both the public and private sectors, locally, nationally, and internationally. Although we are a small department by provincial and national standards, we are able to make significant and lasting contributions in both our teaching and research.

## COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

The Field Practicum course is intended to provide third and fourth year honours students, and students in the geomatics certificate program, with relevant work and practical experience within the governmental and private sector. A priority is to place students in positions in the Algoma district, aboriginal settlements, and other parts of Northern Ontario. However, opportunities in areas outside of Northern Ontario, including overseas, will be followed. Flexible paths for placement are utilized.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Analyze the earth as an integrated human-environment system.
- Reflect critically upon the scope and evolution of the diverse discipline of geography.
- Recognize, synthesize and evaluate diverse sources of knowledge, models, and approaches pertinent to studying environment issues.
- Collect and analyze geographical data and interpret its significance within the context of human-environment relations.
- Communicate geographical concepts and data using oral, written and visual forms.
- Collaborate effectively as a team leader and team member to pursue innovative solutions.
- Identify and address geographical questions using creativity and critical thoughts.
- Investigate complex real-world challenges using appropriate concepts, methods, and tools from one or more geographical sub-disciplines.
- Explain societal relevance of geographical knowledge and apply it to real world issues.



## WHY STUDY AT ALGOMA U IN SAULT STE. MARIE?

Algoma U is located in Sault Ste. Marie, a city of 75,000 people in Northern Ontario. "The Soo", as locals call it, has all the amenities of a big city – shopping, entertainment, sports teams, festivals, and cultural activities – but without the hassle of traffic. We're lucky enough to live in a city surrounded by the great outdoors. With Lake Superior and the St. Mary's River literally just steps from our front door, there's always something to do. You can catch some sun at the beach or walk our beautiful boardwalk. With the highest elevation in Ontario, Searchmont Resort is a popular winter destination for our students, offering great alpine skiing and snowboarding.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

ENG4U  
Minimum 65%.

Applying to Algoma U is simple. We're ready to help answer all of your questions and more. Before you know it, you'll be walking across campus to your first class.

[algomau.ca/apply](http://algomau.ca/apply)

## GAIN. EXPERIENCE.

Experiential Learning is "learning by doing." There are many experiential learning opportunities in the classroom, lab and in the community. Students in the Geography program have participated in labs, debates, and thesis. A full inventory of Geography experiential learning opportunities is listed in this Experience Map.

## SKILLS EMPLOYERS ARE SEEKING

With over 2,000 business leaders surveyed, the top skills they would like to see in their employees include:

1. Leadership
2. Communication
3. Collaboration
4. Time Management
5. Understanding the impact of technology
6. Consistent global training

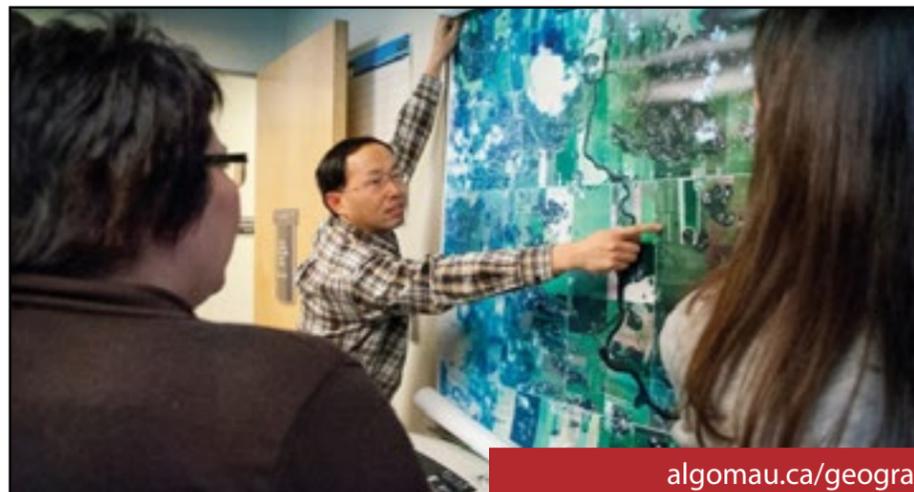
## USING THIS EXPERIENCE MAP

Making a plan in first year will lead to your success. We're ready to assist you with your plan.

This Experience Map offers suggestions, which is a guide to explore many options. Understanding where you want to be will help you make the correct decisions to get you there.

We're also here to help you with your physical and mental well-being. We want you to succeed in all aspects of your life. For further assistance, visit Student Success Central, NW307.

Questions?  
[info@algomau.ca](mailto:info@algomau.ca)



[algomau.ca/geography](http://algomau.ca/geography)



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**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR**

**2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR**

**3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR OR FINAL YEAR**

**4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OR FINAL YEAR**

**AFTER GRAD?**

GET ASSISTANCE

**GEOG1026\*/1027**  
\*Minimum grade of 60% required  
Electives:  
6 credits from Group I – Humanities  
6 credits from Group III – Sciences  
12 credits (from any group)  
Meet with your Academic Advisor to select courses.

Make an appointment with your Faculty Advisor in early February to develop your academic plan.  
Questions about rules and regulations in your program? See your Academic Advisor in Student Success Central.  
Want to enhance your degree? Consider a **minor or certificate**.

Continue to meet with your Faculty Advisor to ensure you are meeting program requirements and academic goals.  
This is a good time to investigate a Master's Degree, Post-graduate Diploma or Bachelor of Education. Please make an appointment in Student Success Central for full details.

Complete degree requirements and ensure you've met all deadlines for post-graduate options.  
**Apply to graduate.**

After completing a degree in geography, students are open to an array of career paths and opportunities.

GET EXPERIENCE

Take COOP0101 as a first step to be enrolled in the co-op program at Algoma University. Check your **Student Portal** for job postings.  
Visit the **Experiential Learning HUB** to learn about exciting opportunities! Start connecting to career opportunities in your first year by joining the **Career Link Program**.  
**Courses with EL component.**

Use the skills gained from COOP0101 to apply for a co-op placement or summer job. Continue to keep an eye out for job opportunities on your **Student Portal**. Listings include general employment, local/non-local co-op opportunities, on-campus employment and volunteer opportunities.  
**Courses with EL component.**

Attend the fourth-year thesis presentations to gain knowledge to prepare yourself to complete your thesis project.  
**Courses with EL component.**

Complete a thesis and present it to fellow classmates, faculty and other AU community members!  
Take advantage of the New Graduate Transition Program!  
**Courses with EL component.**

Many of our students pursue graduate programs and go on to pursue exciting careers in many areas. Graduates can and have pursued:

GET CONNECTED

Get involved with volunteer opportunities on campus with the **Food Bank**, the **Thunder Street Team** or apply to be an **Orientation Week leader**. Come support our **Varsity Thunderbird** athletic teams and participate in **Intramurals** at the GLC.  
Consider joining one of the many **clubs** through AUSU.  
Be sure to sign up for one of our historical campus tours.

Volunteer off campus. Reach out to local organizations such as: **Clean North**, the **Invasive Species Centre**, **Sault Canal Locks**, or the **Forests Ontario**. For more volunteer opportunities visit **Volunteer Sault Ste. Marie**.  
Think about running for a position with the **Algoma University Students' Union**.

Update your **LinkedIn** profile and connect virtually with alumni, classmates, faculty and professionals in the Geography field.  
Networking is the most important technique to get jobs in today's society – over 75% of jobs come from networking.

Consider joining professional associations like **Canadian Association of Geographers**, **National Center for Geographic Information & Analysis** or the **Canadian Remote Sensing Society**.  
Join groups on **LinkedIn** reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Geography.

- Aerial Photo Interpreter
- Cartographer
- Data Analyst
- Economic Analyst

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

Attend a **Study Abroad** info session and consider studying in China, Spain, South Korea, Mexico, France, Austria or Japan and see which places appeal to YOU.  
Gather information on the various global opportunities. Algoma U is proud to offer **Study Abroad** and the Student Work Abroad Program.

Are you interested in doing a study exchange? Check out **Study Abroad** and attend an information session to get the info you need and to ensure your application is submitted by the deadline.  
Your next adventure is waiting!

Improve your language skills through some of our Modern Language courses or learn about another culture.  
Consider doing a **Short-Term Summer Study Abroad** opportunity gain experience, knowledge and have the opportunity to tour a new country while working!

If you are an international student looking to stay in Canada to work, talk to a **Student Success Academic Advisor**.  
To learn more about working in Canada, volunteer at **Discover the Sault** through the Economic Development Centre.

- Energy Administrator
- Environmental Researcher
- Forestry Analyst
- Geographer
- GIS Analyst

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Check out **Career Cruising** (login: algomauc password: saultsternarie) to determine potential career paths that you can pursue in the future.  
Bring your resume to the next level! **Optimal Resume** is an excellent resource to develop your resume and cover letter. Visit **Career Services** in the **Experiential Learning HUB** for assistance.

**Lynda.com** is available to help you learn the skills you need to achieve your full potential. Once you complete a learning path it will automatically be displayed as an accomplishment on your **LinkedIn** profile.  
Use **Optimal Resume** to improve your resume and cover letter as well as practice your interview skills.

Start focusing on areas of interest and research education requirements for your career path.  
Reach out to your **Academic Advisor**, **Student Success Central** or your faculty advisor to assist you in applying to a Master's Degree, Post-graduate Diploma or Bachelor of Education.  
Take some time to create or update your resume and **LinkedIn** profile.

Use the resources available in **Career Services** to learn about the many job opportunities available to you upon graduation.  
Attend the Career Conference to get some professional advice from the **Sault Community Career Centre** on your resume, job searching strategies and interview tips.

- Location Analyst
- Meteorologist
- Park Ranger
- Remote Sensing Specialist
- Education



Always remember to put your health first! Hit the **GLC** for some calming Yoga or an intense workout or take walks around campus to clear your mind.  
If you're feeling depressed, anxious or upset don't worry YOU ARE NOT ALONE. – Download the **I.M. Well App** or call 1-877-234-5327 for 24/7 free counselling or book an appointment with an on-campus counsellor by emailing [healthservices@algomau.ca](mailto:healthservices@algomau.ca).  
We're here for you. Visit the Learning Centre for information on free tutoring and learning strategies.