Why major/minor in Geography at Colgate?

Voices of Colgate Geography Alumni

Focus on human-environment relationships

“I was interested in environmental policy issues, and I became an Environmental Geography major because it was the major that focused the most on the intersection of environmental issues and human policy implications.”

“The courses addressed both the environmental and human issues I truly cared about and with a practical approach that I found far more appealing than the hard physical sciences that were approaching similar issues.”

True interdisciplinary experience

“Basically all of my interests were covered in course topics and I have also always enjoyed being able to see the larger picture of the world. Geography brings together natural science, social, and economic factors to display how they affect each other.”

“I cannot stress enough how proud I was to be a geography major because it was a perfect mix of humanities (i.e. writing lots of papers and reviewing the scholarly literature) and science (i.e. GIS classes, weather and climate, climatology, soils etc).”

“I was initially interested in environmental science, but soon realized that Geography touched upon social issues, specifically public health, and therefore the right direction for me to pursue.”

Great professors and versatile curriculum

“Loved the course work. Loved the professors. Thought that the issues were current, exciting, and becoming increasingly important across society as a whole.”

“Interesting and versatile curriculum, great recommendations from peers, excellent experiences in the classroom in my first several years at school.”

Working closely with professors with a real sense of community

It was a small department, with small classes and a lot of contact with the faculty members. I was able to develop meaningful relationships with my professors, and it felt like a real community in the department.

“Liked the range of courses geography offered, the personal feeling of the department and accessibility of the professors.”

Geographers think big!

“I entered Colgate with the idea that I would be a biology major, but with each year I decided the straight science approach was too narrow for my big-picture brain (and humanitarian heart).”

...love traveling and outdoors

“I have a passion for the outdoors and would ultimately like to pursue a career in environmental science and sustainability.”

...and love maps

“I was interested in maps”