What do SUAD alumni do?

“After three years at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi, I did my last year of Bachelor of Geography in Sorbonne Paris. It was a very rich experience to move to a large European capital. I was able to improve my French, to experience new environments and to know more about my personal and professional project. Once graduated I started working as a Social Media Manager for an Indian NGO that combines personal training with social and environmental development, such as tree planting or health care improvement in poor rural areas in South-West India. My background in Geography has given me many competencies that I am using on a daily basis: ability to tackle multifold issues on development and sustainability, mastering of IT tools for communication and database management, writing and communication skills for a multicultural audience. For the future, I plan to apply to a Master in Environment, to become more specialised on social intelligence and environmental issues.”

Salah Zadakan

“After graduation I interned at ADNOC, Exploration and Production, before moving to UNHCR. My background in Geography has been very useful in my current career, given that we covered human geography, geopolitics, and humanitarian development courses. The course that really marked what I wanted to do with my life was the humanitarian development course. Nevertheless, I think this major educates in various spectrums and educated me in more fields than people expect.”

Amna Salem-AlMurry

“I am so lucky to be more particularly in charge of the French trade and business relation with Korea and Japan that have always fascinated me. From my undergraduate studies I get excellent thinking and analytical skills that helped me to attain my current position. As a Geographer I take great advantage of being able to analyse thoroughly the international relations and to combine multiple patterns of the global world with the interplay of economy, culture, and society.”

Florent Bertrand

“I’m a MarCom MSD for Microsoft Gulf. In other words Regional Marketing. I started my professional life when I was in France with a marketing agency called Quadriplay and I was in charge of studies geomarketing. Year and a half after, I was able to join Orange in Marketing department as head of studies geomarketing and GIS analysis. Year and a half after, I joined Wunderman in Cairo as executor of marketing campaigns. Vu my preceding experiences, six months after my arrival in Wunderman I was promoted to be an Account Manager for Microsoft France. Today I find myself in Dubai, always with Wunderman, but this time I manages Microsoft Gulf. The Geography and Planning degree in Sorbonne brought me a lot of advantage and they helped me to succeed in my life. First advantage is the French language which has helped me become trilingual. Besides the geography courses that taught me to read, understand the situation, analyse the elements to find the most effective solution, which helps me too in my field because when we work in marketing, we must always understand the current situation to find either solution in case of problems, or to improve in case of success”.

Islam Salama

What can I do with a major in Geography and Planning
Where do Geographers work?

Geography graduates have a variety of career options due to their focus on both the human and physical environment, and to their ability to holistically tackle global questions, such as climate change, urbanisation or social inequalities. Their analytical and operational skills are in demand from both the public and private sectors.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of available job sectors and career options after a Bachelor degree in Geography and Planning, depending on graduates’ interests, experience and further studies.

Energy, Renewable Energies, Water, Environment, Earth, Weather & Climate
- Environmental scientist
- Resource management planner, resource officer
- Climate consultant
- Sustainable advisor
- Natural hazards analyst
- Emergency management specialist
- Water & marine resources manager
- Cartographer / Map editor / Map analyst

Urban & Regional Planning, Community Services Management
- Urban & transport planner
- Development planner
- Planning & risk manager
- Geographical information system (GIS) specialist
- Master planner assistant
- Geo-intelligence specialist
- Spatial statistics analyst

Business, Construction & Real Estate, Logistics, Tourism & Culture, Consulting
- Geospatial analyst
- Ecotourism consultant
- Sustainable development consultant
- Market research analyst
- Commercial & residential surveyor
- Data collector / database administrator

Education, Training, Research, Public Administration, Governments, NGOs, International Relations
- Social researcher
- Geography teacher/ University lecturer
- Policy consultant / advisor/ analyst
- Environmental regulations specialist
- NGO / aid agency practitioner
- Foreign services officer

Further studies options

A whole range of postgraduate studies are available after a Bachelor degree in Geography and Planning. Examples of areas of specialisation (Master and PhD) include:
- Environment: dynamics of territories & socialites (SUAD)
- Urban planning and development (SUAD)
- Applied social research (SUAD)
- Environment
- Transport and logistics
- Urban planning
- Muslim and Arab world studies
- Public affairs
- Geopolitics
- Geomarketing and business administration
- Urban, community and regional planning
- Geographical information systems (GIS)
- International relations and international affairs
- Business administration

Where do SUAD graduates go following a Bachelor degree in Geography and Planning?

The following non-exhaustive list of institutions is based on SUAD placement records for alumni of the Archeology & History of Art department.

- Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- Sorbonne University (France)
- University Paris-1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France)
- Ecole d’Urbanisme de Paris (France)
- University of Paris Vincennes (France)
- University of Reims (France)
- University of Aberdeen (Scotland)
- University College London (UCL) (UK)
- Coventry University London (UK)
- New York Institute of Technology (UAE)

Postgraduate admission requirements in terms of eligible and relevant undergraduate degree vary widely from country to country and from one higher education institution to another. Candidates may refer to the admission requirements applicable to each institution.