

Programme and curricula / Vision and individuality

7 OCTOBER 2025

Department of Geography

Programme and curricula

The academic programmes in Geography and Geomatics at UGent are formed around six global learning lines:

1.

"Geography": in it, students gain insights and theory on three specific learning lines that focus on the relationship between society and environment in an integrated way and understanding, analysing and answering complex spatial and social questions. This global learning line is further divided into three specific learning lines: social and economic geography, landscape science and physical geography.

2.

"Geomatics": latest technological developments around collecting and analysing spatial information. This global learning line is further divided into three specific learning lines: remote sensing & topography (data acquisition), cartography & GIS (data processing) and Geo-ICT.

3.

"Methods & Research Skills": basic knowledge & skills, specific methods and techniques for investigating spatial issues (spatial analysis), fieldwork, international literature review and formulating research questions.

4.

"Communication & Social Skills": written and oral reporting of research findings and group collaboration.

5.

"Professionalisation": this learning line connects to the field and the application of geography and geomatics in different professional fields.

6.

"Interdisciplinarity & Auxiliary Sciences": this learning line provides input from other sciences (basic sciences and natural and human sciences).

Vision and individuality

The academic programmes in Geography and Geomatics at UGent are formed around six global learning lines:

1.

The **balanced integration of geography and geomatics**, through (1) specific course units and (2) the systematic application of geomatics methods and techniques in the geography curriculum and the elaboration and use of relevant geographic examples in the elaboration of the geomatics curriculum.

2.

An **interdisciplinary approach to geography**, involving natural sciences and humanities to take an integrated approach to the relationship between society and the environment and to understand, analyse and answer complex spatial and social questions.

3.

A **scientific-technological approach to geomatics**, featuring the latest developments around the collection and analysis of time-spatial information.

4.

The balance between **theorising and insight** and **application** lies at the heart of the inquisitive and critical attitude

5.

The **field and society** are the important sources and field of work, so fieldwork, projects and field trips occupy an important place in the course.

6.

Using knowledge, insights and skills in an original, creative and innovative way in **scientific and professional thinking and action**.