

6. DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Geography at National Taiwan University was founded in 1955, as the first geography department in Taiwan. It began offering a graduate program in 1981, and was established as an innovative and influential program leading to the Ph.D. degree in 1989.

The Department belongs to the College of Science and supports cutting-edge research in human geography, physical geography, and geospatial technology. The research activities of the Department have diversified over the years. Although primarily focusing on Taiwan, broader geographical areas, both within the local region and beyond, have represented the research interests of the staff.

In 2012, the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) company, the well-noted rating agency in higher education, released its 2012 World University Rankings by Subject, in which the Department ranked 17th in the "Arts & Humanities – Geography" category. The ranking of the Department stands second only to its counterparts in the University of Singapore and University of Tokyo in Asia, and on the top in the Greater China Circle, including Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao.

FACULTY

Full-time : 19

Joint Appointment : 1

Adjunct : 5

Ph.D. : 25

Chair / Professor

Tzai-Hung Wen Ph.D., National Taiwan University

Professors Emeriti

Chiu-Yuan Wang M.S., McGill University

Shin Wang Ph.D., Columbia University

Lan-Hung Nora Chiang

Ph.D., University of Hawaii

Chang-Yi David Chang

Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin

Full-Time

Professors

Chin-Hong Sun Ph.D., University of Georgia

Tzu-How Chu Ph.D., University of Kansas

Jiun-Chuan Lin Ph.D., University of London

Sue-Ching Jou Ph.D., University of Minnesota

Jinn-Guey Lay Ph.D., University of Hawaii

Jinn-Yuh Hsu Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

Jen-Jia Lin Ph.D., National Chiao Tung University

Mei-Hui Li Ph.D., University of Illinois

Tsung-Yi Huang Ph.D., University of New York

Bor-Wen Tsai Ph.D., National Taiwan University

Shiuh-Shen Chien

Ph.D., London School of Economics and
Political Science

Cho-Ying Huang Ph.D., University of Arizona

Jr-Chuan Huang Ph.D., National Taiwan University

Associate Professors

Jehn-Yih Juang Ph.D., Ph. D., Duke University

Po-Yi Hung Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Assistant Professors**

Cheing-Tung Lee Ph.D., University of Hawaii
 Kuang-Chi Hung Ph.D., Harvard University
 Ray Y. Chuang Ph.D., Indiana University

Joint Appointment Assistant Professor

Chiao-Ling Kuo Ph.D., National Cheng Kung University

Adjunct**Professors**

Lan-Hung Nora Chiang
 Ph.D., University of Hawaii
 Chang-Yi David Chang
 Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin
 Kang-Tsung Chang
 Ph.D., Clark University
 Shuh-Ji Kao Ph.D., National Taiwan University

Assistant Professor Rank Specialist

Che-Wei Shen Ph.D., National Taiwan University

FACILITIES

The extensive collection of maps, aerial photographs, and EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) Reports is an important component of our available research and teaching resources.

The GIS Research Center is equipped with data server, 3D-scanner, large-size scanner, plotter, and a computer room of 50 PCs installed digital analysis packages such as ESRI ArcGIS and other professional software. The Physical Geography Lab has equipments such as Polarizing Microscope, Water Quality Analysis Meter, Fluid Speed Meter, Micro-Lysimeter, Auto Meteorological Station, Leica Smart Station, Gas Chromatography, High Performance Liquid Chromatography. The department is also home to five other specialized laboratories, which support teaching and research needs.

COURSES**Undergraduate Programs**

The Geography Department offers a four-year program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree. Students must complete a minimum of 128 credits for graduation.

Required credits for Undergraduate

Freshman	Credit
Calculus (general Mathematics) (A)/ Calculus (general Mathematics) (B)	8/6
Intro. to Physical Geography	3
Intro. to Human Geography	3
Computer Programming	3
Cartography and Geographic Information System	3
Sophomore	Credit
Geomorphology and Lab.	3
Statistics with Practices	4
Local and Regional Development	3
Principles of Remote Sensing	3
Climatology and Lab.	3
Culture, Society, and Nature	3
Spatial Analysis	3
Junior	Credit
Investigation Methods in Physical Geography / Investigation Methods in Human Geography / Spatial Data Collection Methods	3
Regional Geography	3
Senior	Credit
Environmental Resource Conservation and Management and Lab.	3

Graduate Programs

The Master program (started in 1981), including the Continuing Education Program (started in 2000), requires 24 credits of course work and a thesis that would earn 6 credits. The Ph.D. program requires 24 credits of course work and a research dissertation, which would earn 12 credits, as well as an academic paper published in refereed journals which are in the lists of SCI, SSCI and AHCI.

Both the undergraduate and graduate programs are based on several core courses in physical and human geography. These include introductory courses in Physical Geography and Cultural Geography, Cartography and Map Interpretation, and other courses in Mathematics and Statistics. Upper level courses include Geomorphology, Climatology, Environmental Hydrology, Environmental Resource Conservation and Management, Research Methods in Physical and Human Geography, Economic Geography, Cultural Geography, Urban Geography, Urban and Regional Development, Human Dimension and Global Change, and Geographic Thought. The Department also offers several specialized methodology courses, such as Quantitative Geography, Remote Sensing, and Geographic Information Systems, as well as regional courses on the geography of Taiwan and China. Special Topics courses are offered according to student and faculty interest. Most courses include significant laboratory or tutorial components.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

1. To hold local and international symposiums and conferences.
2. To organize a series of special lectures and forums every semester.
3. Apart from inviting outstanding scholars both in Taiwan and abroad, the Department recruits geographers with good international reputation periodically as visiting professor.
4. The Journal of Geographical Science, a flagship journal of geography in Taiwan, is published four times a year. It includes articles from Taiwanese and international scholars on a range of issues across the dynamic discipline.
5. Various training programs such as remote sensing, GIS and those offered to senior high school teachers.

CAREERS AND FURTHER STUDIES

Professional abilities

- (1) Natural environments and natural hazards
- (2) Conservation and resources management
- (3) Techniques in GIS
- (4) Mapping and data visualization
- (5) Landscape planning, urban and regional planning
- (6) Land use planning and design

Further studies

- (1) Research institute of geography
- (2) Research institute of urban planning
- (3) Research institute of environmental engineering
- (4) Research institute of building and planning
- (5) Research institute of survey and civil engineering
- (6) Research institute of geology
- (7) Research institute of land economies

Career Prospects

Public sectors and non-government enterprises such as middle and high school education, academic research, resources conservation, engineering planning and consultation, mapping, environmental planning and management, travel service, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Established in 1955

Chairperson | Tzai-Hung Wen

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