



EMMA

GEOGRAPHY

ABOUT MY MAJOR

Geography is learning about how places connect to everything else in the world - like people, places, or things. There are different kinds of geography, like human geography and physical geography.

CHOOSING MY MAJOR

I started as Exploratory and didn't decide on Geography right away. I took Human Geography with Dr. Liang and she showed us a video about a team that was mapping a town in Africa. The town had never been mapped before and they mapped it to make the town less confusing and more accessible to people. I just thought that was so cool.

MINORS & CERTIFICATES

I have a minor in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). There is the Crime Mapping and Analysis certificate, which focuses on data analysis and digital map making. That's pretty popular. There's also the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) mapping certificate.

SKILLS

Critical thinking and problem-solving skills are important. Communication is important, because Geography is group oriented and we work in teams of people. In the real world it's common to work as a team on projects, so being able to collaborate with different people and is a good skill to have. Data analysis is also really important.

INTERNSHIPS

I did an internship at Hartman Reserve in Cedar Falls. I worked with four other interns. We were in charge of the summer programs and field trips, so we planned different programs for kids. We helped them to get to go outside more and learn different things about nature that they might not have known before.

I recently started a job with the Geography Department at the GeoTree. Basically, it's a center where we work on GIS and remote sensing projects. People from outside agencies approach us with different projects that they need help on. We recently finished a project with Waterloo Waterworks where we helped them with mapping of water lines. Now, we're starting a new project with the DNR. We're doing a remote sensing project with them.

CAREERS

I'm looking at a career as a GIS Analyst Specialist or something similar in that field. A job with GIS is digital mapping. Depending on the company, you're mapping different things. I've also looked at Environmental Consulting and Sustainability Consulting jobs.