

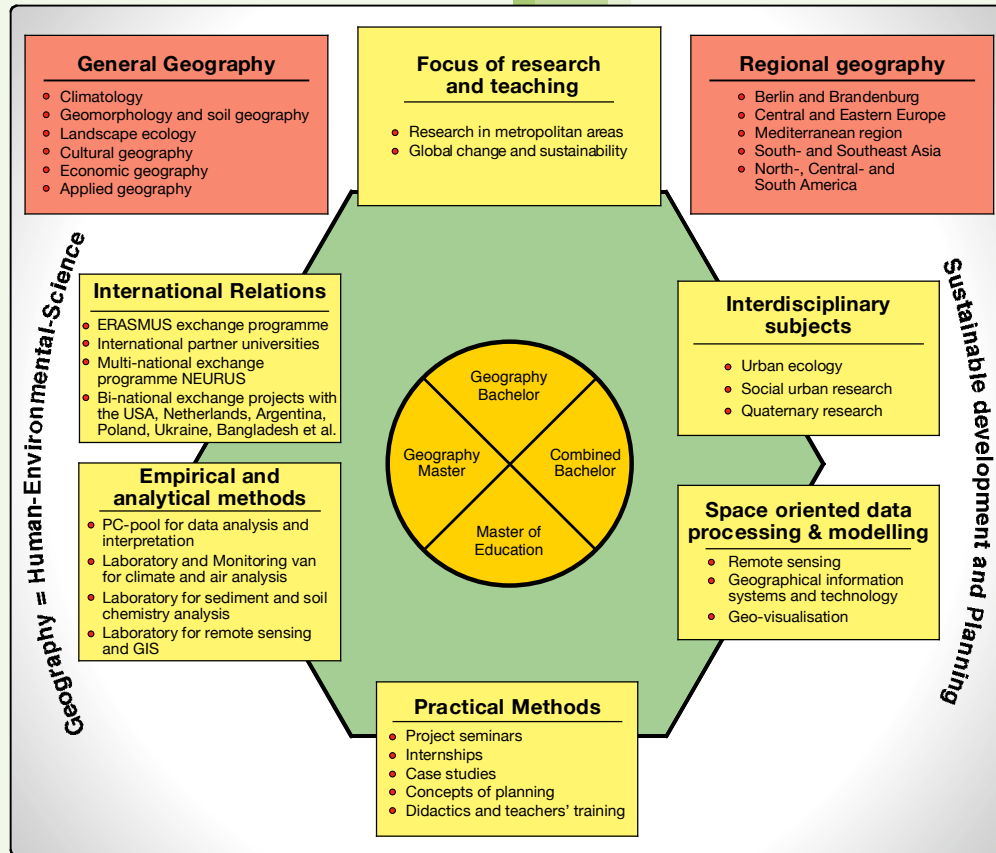


profile

▶ Modern geography encompasses both natural and social sciences in a spatial context. Both disciplines contribute to the investigation of human-environment interactions.

▶ There are 11 chairs at the department, four with a focus on **physical geography** (climatology, geomorphology and soil geography, landscape ecology, and climate change); four with a focus on **human geography** (economic geography, cultural geography, applied geography, and new cultural geography); two with a focus on **geomatics and remote sensing**, and one with a focus on **didactics of geography**. Completing the department's profile, additional chairs have been established in collaboration with external partners (hydrology, transport geography, geovisualisation, climate systems, sustainability science and geo-bio-modelling).

▶ **International experience** is an important element of the daily work of geographers. The Geography Department is integrated in a network of universities with intensive exchange of faculty and students. Within Europe, the exchange is based on the ERASMUS/SOKRATES-programmes; the NEURUS-programme offers possibilities for studies at North-American universities. Additional contacts exist with several universities in Asia and South-America.



▶ The Geography Department focuses on **research in metropolitan areas** as well as on **global change and sustainability**. A diversity of major research projects are supported

by competitive external funding, including a Ph.D. Research Training Programme (Graduiertenkolleg) entitled "Perspectives on Urban Ecology" funded by the DFG, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Federal Research Foundation) and carried out in close cooperation with the University of Washington in Seattle.

▶ A DFG funded priority programme investigates informal processes in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

▶ The location of the Institute on the **"Adlershof campus for Science, Economy and Media"** in the southeast of Berlin allows faculties to link up with other university departments of the two Schools of Natural Sciences as well as major research institutions such as the German Aerospace Centre (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.). These opportunities for cooperation are a significant source of the department's successful research activities.

research

teaching

▶ The number of students at the Geography Department is presently about 1000. Our Bachelors- and Master programmes were introduced in 2003/2004 as one of the first courses of study in geography in Germany which conformed to European standards. Furthermore, the Geography Department offers programmes for teacher education.

▶ **Mono Bachelor** Programme in Geography (6 semesters) (B.Sc./B.A.)

▶ **Combined Bachelor** Programme in teacher education (Depending on the chosen focus this programme qualifies for subsequent Master studies in Education or disciplinary oriented studies.)

▶ **Master Programmes** (4 semesters):

- Master of Arts (M.A.) Urban geography – human geography
- Master of Sciences (M.Sc.) Urban geography – physical geography, environment and nature in metropolitan regions
- Master of Education (M.Ed.) Geography

▶ **Graduate School of Geography** following up the Graduate Research Training Group on Urban Ecology is under preparation for PhD Students.

## history and future

- ▶ The Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin has a long tradition in geography which goes back to its foundation in 1810. Here, **Alexander von Humboldt** presented his famous "Kosmos" lectures.
- ▶ In 1825, **Carl Ritter** accepted a professorship for regional studies, ethnology, and history. He established geography as an independent and internationally approved science at the university.
- ▶ In 1887, **Ferdinand von Richthofen** founded the Geography Department. Von Richthofen's successors were the renowned glaciologist **Albrecht Penck** and the famous regional geographer **Norbert Krebs**.
- ▶ **Alfred Rühl**, the last Ph.D. student of von Richthofen, promoted the socio-scientific foundation of economic geography and paved the way for the sub-discipline of social geography.
- ▶ Today, the Geography Department has its focus on **metropolitan studies, global change and sustainability sciences**.
- ▶ **Innovative and integrative research** projects are realized in cooperation with numerous national and international universities and institutions. In 2009, the Geography Department was ranked second of all geography departments in Germany, regarding DFG-funding.

## contact



- ▶ **How to get there by public transport:** • S-Bahn services (S 45, S 46, S 8, S 9) calling at Adlershof station
- ▶ **Approximate travel time:**
  - from Berlin-Hauptbahnhof (Main Station) ca. 30 min
  - from Berlin-Ostbahnhof ca. 25 min
  - from Schönefeld Airport ca. 20 min
  - from Tegel Airport ca. 60 min
- ▶ **Alumni**  
The Alumni of the institute are invited to contact the alumni association via the homepage. Former students and scientists are welcome.

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