WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN GEOLOGY?
1. Assess environmental problems, particularly those concerning water and soil contamination.
2. Search for petroleum and mineral resources.
3. Study and interpret the history, structure, and composition of the earth and its climate.
4. Conduct geological and geophysical surveys in order to map the surface and subsurface geological and hydrological features.
5. Advise policy making organizations on environmental problems.

EXAMPLES OF FIELDS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR GEOLOGY MAJORS:
1. Environmental consulting companies
2. N.Y. Dept. of Transportation
3. Oil and gas companies
4. Mineral exploration companies
5. NY Dept. of Environ. Conservation
6. Universities and Colleges
7. U.S. Geological Survey
8. High Schools

SAMPLE JOB TITLES OF SUNY POTSDAM GEOLOGY ALUMNI:
* Geophysicist
* Environmental Geologist
* Hydrogeologist
* Engineering Geologist
* Professor
* Teacher
* Environmental Consultant
* Geologist
* Exploration Geologist
* Oceanographer

SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:
1. Environmental Geologist: evaluates and monitors potential hazards to the public from environmental contamination, earthquakes, landslides, floods, indoor radon, volcanoes, etc.
2. Exploration Geologist: identifies water, mineral and energy resources.
3. Engineering Geologists: locates and characterizes optimal sites for the construction of major infrastructure. Also, locates, designs and monitors nuclear or other waste disposal sites.
4. Hydrogeologist: studies the occurrence, movement and properties of groundwater. May specialize in geologic analysis of subsurface water supplies or environmental work, i.e. preventing pollution, cleaning up contamination, planning for hazardous waste disposal, etc.
ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY:
1. Get involved in the career development process early - freshman year.
2. Get career related experience: internships, summer and/or part-time employment, volunteer. Join a career related association or organization.
3. Become active with a student research project within the department.
4. Select minors/elective courses that will demonstrate interest/applicability to your career objective.
5. Develop the following job search and self-marketing skills: resume and cover letter writing, portfolio development, researching employers, interviewing, networking, and employment searching.
6. Skills to develop: computer, map construction, oral and written presentation of scientific information.

SAMPLE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES:
* Student Conservation Association
  - Address specific, urgent conservation challenges.
  - Interns may search for caves in high probability areas, confirm cave locations, sketch and produce preliminary maps, and describe cave geology.
  - Aid abandoned mine inventory, reclamation, and current mining inspections.

* Americorps
  - Engage in addressing unmet community services.
  - Interns may tutor and mentor youth, assist crime victims, build homes, and restore parks.

* Barrick Gold Corporation
  - Short-term work opportunity which helps you enhance your geoscience and research skills.
  - Enables you to investigate interests & career opportunities within the mining industry.

PREPARING FOR THE JOB SEARCH MARKET
* Write an employer targeted resume and cover letter
* Learn job search strategies
* Borrow resources from SUNY Potsdam’s Career Planning Library
* Develop networking cards
* Network w/employers at Career/Job Fairs
* Prepare for an interview
* Design a portfolio and self-marketing brochure
* Visit SUNY Potsdam’s Career Planning Web Site at: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career
* Seek advice from faculty

SOME EMPLOYERS OF SUNY POTSDAM GEOLOGY ALUMNI:
* EnviroGroup
* GeoServices
* Kleinfelder Associates
* Albany Molecular Research
* NY Department of Transportation
* Specialized Engineering
* Barrick Gold
* Potsdam Central School
* Alaska Earth Science
* Corning Glass
* OpTech Environmental
* Heindel & Noyes
* Franklin Academy
* Clear Harbors
WHERE TO GET INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:
1. GEOLOGY DEPT., SUNY Potsdam, 220 Timerman Hall (267-2286)
   * Talk with Faculty                 * Talk with Students                 * Talk with Alumni

2. CAREER PLANNING OFFICE, SUNY Potsdam, 206 Sisson Hall
   * Individual Career Assistance   * Job Vacancies
   * Workshops/Seminars            * Summer Jobs
   * Employer Literature           * Reference file
   * Career Assessment Programs    * Career Planning Web Site
   * Career and Job Fairs          * Career Library
   * Networking Assistance         * A Major Affair
   * Alumni Mentor                 * Free Handouts Available

WHAT IF I WANT TO GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL?
RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:
   * On-Campus Graduate School Fair
   * Graduate School handout
   * GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT and MAT forms and bulletins
     (GRE computerized tests and graduate study books)
   * Graduate books - listings of schools and programs
   * Financial aid information about graduate school
   * Peterson’s Graduate Programs   (G7F, G7G, G7H, G7I, G7J, G7K)
   * Web Site: www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/graduate

RESOURCES FOR FINDING EMPLOYERS:
RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:
   * The Career Guide Employment Opportunities Directory   (R8GG)
   * Job Hunter’s Sourcebook   (R26G)
   * Great Jobs for Geology Majors (C45BB)
   * Summer Jobs Worldwide (S2A)
   * Geoscientific Employment and Hiring Survey   (R45A)
   * The Geophysical Directory   (R45B)
   * Scientific Technical Organizations & Agencies Directory   (R45E, R45F)
   * Career Opportunities in Geology and the Earth Sciences (C45B)
   * Career Planning Job Search Internet Links: www.potsdam.edu/offices/jobsearch/index.cfm
   * Additional material found by using Career Planning Library Bibliography

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:
   * American Geological Institute
     4220 King Street
     Alexandria, VA 22302
     (703) 379-2480
     www.agiweb.org

   * The Geological Society of America
     3300 Penrose Place
     P.O. Box 9140
     Boulder, CO 80301
     (303) 357-1000
     www.geosociety.org

   * The International Association
     for Environmental Hydrology
     206 Hopeton Drive
     San Antonio, TX 78230
     (201) 984-7583
     www.hydroweb.com

   * American Association of Petroleum
     P.O. Box 979
     Tulsa, OK 74101
     (918) 584-2555
     www.aap.org

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