

# Mapping Your Career: Geography (Meteorology-Climatology), BS

## The School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning – Career & Internship Services

The American Meteorological Society defines a meteorologist as a person with specialized education "who uses scientific principles to explain, understand, observe, or forecast the earth's atmospheric phenomena and/or how the atmosphere affects the earth and life on the planet."<sup>1</sup> Most people assume a meteorologist is someone who explains the forecast on television. However, broadcast meteorologists are a very small percentage of career meteorologists. Many meteorologists collaborate with other geoscientists and social scientists to help solve problems in areas such as commerce, energy, transportation, agriculture, and the environment.

## Industry Opportunities

- Geographers are involved in developing management plans for national parks, forests, wilderness areas, wetlands, and waterways. They work at agencies such as NASA and NOAA designing, launching and using scientific data from world-class satellite remote sensing instruments to examine weather and climate change around the world.<sup>2</sup>
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, the meteorologist job will probably grow by 8% through 2030, with private sectors offering the most job prospects. Some job sectors where meteorologists may work include; Broadcast networks, U.S. Government-National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Military, Academia, Airlines, Cruise Lines, and Shipping Companies.

## Navigating Your Future in Geography (Meteorology-Climatology)

(\*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment figures are for 2020; projected growth is for the period 2020-2030; median wages are for 2020)

### Atmospheric Scientists, Including Meteorologist

Atmospheric scientists study the weather and climate, and examine how those conditions affect human activity and the earth in general.

- Projected Growth:** 8%
- Median Wages:** \$99,740

### Wind Turbine Technicians

Wind turbine service technicians, also known as *windtechs*, install, maintain, and repair wind turbines.

- Projected Growth:** 68%
- Median Wages:** \$56,230

### Environmental Scientists and Specialists

Environmental scientists and specialists use their knowledge of the natural sciences to protect the environment and human health.

- Projected Growth:** 8%
- Median Wages:** \$73,230

### Radio and Television Broadcasting

Present the news and comment on important current events.

- Projected Growth:** 15%
- Median Wages:** \$55,150

## Add Value to Your Degree

Extra-curricular opportunities can provide you with practical, real-world experiences to complement your degree.

### Sun Devil Weather and Climate

Open to all students and is focused on learning, sharing, and building a community resilient to weather impacts and events. [asu.campuslabs.com/engage/](https://asu.campuslabs.com/engage/)

### American Meteorological Society

Advances the atmospheric and related sciences, technologies, applications, and services for the benefit of society. [Ametsoc.org](https://ametsoc.org)

### Contact

[Sgsup.careeradvising@asu.edu](mailto:Sgsup.careeradvising@asu.edu) to schedule  
a career/internship advising appointment.