Introduction

Geography can loosely be defined as the study of all environmental and human phenomena at individual places, and the spatial relationship between them. Generally, the discipline is divided into two main branches namely physical geography and human geography. Physical geography studies the characteristics of the natural environment focusing on topics such as weather, climate and landforms. Human geography, on the other hand, examines human societies and their activities such as culture, economics, political systems and history.

Geographers deploy different analytical approaches to explain, predict and prescribe their findings. The three most common analytical methods used by contemporary geographers are area analysis, spatial analysis and geographic systems analysis. Area analysis is an approach that looks at features of Earth’s surface such as climate, soil type, language or economic activity in a regional context. Spatial analysis, meanwhile, studies the spatial distribution (density, concentration and geometric pattern) and movement (distance and diffusion) of an environmental or a human phenomenon across Earth’s surface. As for geographic systems analysis, it is an approach that studies how Earth’s physical environment influences human actions.

However, before geographers conduct their analysis, they have to first collect the necessary geographic information. To facilitate this process, geographers employ various data collection methodologies ranging from models and theories to traditional tools such as maps, surveys and fieldwork. They also utilise new technologies such as Global Positioning Systems, Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing.

To disseminate the knowledge they produced, geographers usually published their findings in academic journals, popular periodicals or compile them into books. They also produced maps or atlases to illustrate their research results. Some geographers choose to disseminate their research results through traditional popular media such as television and radio or online communication tools such as blogs or websites. This guide is designed to be an easy introduction to highlight resources that are related to Geography in our libraries as well as on the Internet. As the guide is not intended to be comprehensive, interested readers should search the NLB catalogue or the Internet for more resources.
Books and texts are often mainstays of resource guides as these provide introductory and comprehensive information on a particular topic. In the creation of this libguide however, effort was also made to recommend resources that are highly accessible, such as, ebooks, journal and newspaper articles, authoritative websites, among others. Please find below a brief write-up of the resource formats, as well as, how to access them.

- **Print materials** from both the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library, as well as, NLB's Public Libraries. Just click on the given links to activate NLB's online catalogue showing availability of the items. Apart for the reference books at the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library, books recommended in this guide can be reserved online and brought to the library branch of your choice for a small fee of $1.55 (just click on "Reserve this item").

- **Journal articles** from the library's eResources service (http://eresources.nlb.gov.sg). Most of the recommended journal articles are from Proquest Central and JSTOR as these databases are accessible from home. Just click on the given links to be brought to the relevant section of the eResources site. Thereafter, register (if you are new to the service) or log-in >> click on the relevant database (e.g., JSTOR, Proquest Central) >> conduct a search using the article's title.

- **Newspaper articles** from the Factiva database, as well as, the NewspaperSG database. Factiva is available via our eResources service and articles within can be accessed in the same manner as that for journal articles (described above). Newspapers from NewspaperSG can be accessed via (http://newspapers.nl.sg). Articles from 1831 - 1989 can be accessed from home (direct links to the articles are provided) while those after 1989 can only be accessed onsite at the libraries.

- **Embedded videos**. A picture speaks thousand words, what more a video? Click the play button on the embedded videos (from reputable sources) for some visual learning.

- **Web resources**. Relevant websites on the topic, as well as, journal articles accessible via the web.

This guide highlights items in the collection, and is thus not intended to be comprehensive. Interested readers should search the NLB catalogue for more works.

### Librarians

Lim Tin Seng, Sara Pek, Irene Lim, Damien Wang

**Contact Info:**

National Library Singapore
100 Victoria Street
#07-01 National Library Building
Singapore 188064

Send Email

### Share your links

If you know of any interesting resource not featured in this guide, please share with us! It's easy, just click below :)

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### Getting Started

#### Latest in Geography Learning

The latest news from the Geographical Association and the world of geography education.

#### Latest News about Geography

The latest news, commentary and archival information about geography from The New York Times.

#### Latest Research Development in the World of Geography

Read the latest geographical research from universities and institutes around the world.

#### Overview

Geography contains many terms and concepts that are unique to its domain. For example, air, water, solid earth and Earth’s living organisms are termed atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere and biosphere respectively when geographers study Earth’s different spheres or environments. Most of these terms and concepts are readily defined in geographic based dictionaries, encyclopedias or handbooks. These resources can be accessed physically in our collection or electronically using our e-resources services.

#### Printed Materials

**Firefly geography dictionary (910.3 FIR)**

This dictionary is an up-to-date A-Z reference with 1,500 concise definitions of geographical terms. The geographical themes covered include atmosphere, weather and climate, coastal formation, geomorphology, settlement and economic development.
The Economist reports on how immigrants help both the countries they leave and those to which they move.

Interesting Facts about Migration

The Economist reports on how immigrants help both the countries they leave and those to which they move.

Facts on File's World Geography and Culture Online combines detailed, printable, full-colour maps of countries, provinces and states with up-to-date statistical and local information. Suitable for students aged 12 to 18.
World Population Hits 7 Billion
The planet's population is hurtling towards 7 billion. But its growth will start to slow.

Asia’s Growing Economic Influence
Asia is regaining the economic dominance it enjoyed a millennium ago - but it still has some way to go.

Italy’s Division
150 years after its unification, Italy remains riven by regional differences.

Democrats in the South
White Southern Democrats, once dominant, have all but vanished.

Overview
Human geography is one of the two main branches of the discipline of geography. In general, human geography can be defined as the study of human societies and their activities such as culture, economics, political systems and history. Since human geography focuses on human activities, it is a social science and is more receptive to qualitative research methodologies. Some of the subfields of human geography include cultural geography, social geography, economic geography, political geography and historical geography. Our libraries have a good collection of titles related to human geography. Some of them are listed below for your easy reference.

Books
An introduction to political geography: space, place and politics (320.12 JON)
This book provides a broad-based introduction to contemporary political geography for students following undergraduate degree courses in geography and related subjects. It explores the full breadth of contemporary political geography covering areas such as the state, geopolitics, electoral geography, globalization, cultural geography, and geographies of mobilization and resistance.

Diasporas: concepts, intersections, identities (304.2 DIA)
This book provides a comprehensive and authoritative overview of the political and cultural ideas and groups involved in the concept of Diaspora. Wide-ranging and interdisciplinary, the book contains examinations of major concepts and theories, including migration, ethnicity, and postcolonialism.
Thinning on top: For some governments, the damaging effects of climate change on the receding ice-shelf is not all bad news.

Power from the Earth

There is enough heat stored just below the earth's surface to potentially meet the world's energy needs. But can we tap it?

Climate Change and Oil in the Arctic

Thinning on top: For some governments, the damaging effects of climate change on the receding ice-shelf is not all bad news.
New Zealand Earthquakes

New Zealand lies along a tumultuous intersection of tectonic plates. "The Shaky Isles" are riven by fault lines.

Overview

Physical geography is the other main branch of the discipline of geography. It studies the processes and patterns in the natural environment and concentrates on topics such as climate, soil and vegetation. Physical geography is a natural science and its research is often interdisciplinary and uses the systems approach. Some of the subfields of physical geography are climatology, soils geography, agricultural geography and oceanography. Our libraries have a good collection of titles related to physical geography. Some of them are listed below for your easy reference.

Books

Geosystems: an introduction to physical geography (910.02 CHR)
Geosystems: An Introduction to Physical Geography is organized around the natural flow of energy, materials, and information, presenting subjects in the same sequence in which they occur in nature—an organic, holistic approach that is unique in this discipline.

Introducing physical geography (910.02 STR)
Introducing Physical Geography introduces geography as a discipline and identifies the realm of physical geography within geography as a whole.

Elemental Geosystems (910.02 CHR)
This book gives readers an accessible, systematic, non-mathematical, and visually appealing start in physical geography. It features a distinctive, holistic integration of human-Earth relationships, an applied flavour, scientific correctness, and superior graphics (remote sensing images) and cartography. A holistic, process approach is used to describe and discuss each physical system.

Cities and climate change: urban sustainability and global environmental governance (363.7367525091732 BUL)
Climate change is one of the most challenging issues of our time. As key sites in the production and management of emissions of greenhouse gases, cities will be crucial for the implementation of international agreements and national policies on climate change. This book provides a critical analysis of the role of cities in addressing climate change and the prospects for urban sustainability.

Modern physical geography (550 STR)
This book provides rigorous coverage of the topic at the undergraduate level. It includes a full-color art program and increased attention to environmental issues.

Contemporary meanings in physical geography: from what to why? (910.02 CON)
Over the past twenty years, geography as an academic discipline has become more and more reflective, asking the key questions 'What are we doing?' 'Why are we doing it?'. These questions have, so far, been more enthusiastically taken up by human geography rather than physical geography. Contemporary Meanings in Physical Geography aims to redress the balance.

Scientific principles for physical geographers (910.02 BRA)
This text provides an unusually accessible introduction to key scientific principles for understanding how the environment 'works'. It has been designed and written specifically for geography and environmental studies students who have little or no scientific training, and for students with some scientific training but who require a ready reference to relevant scientific topics. The book will also meet the needs of teachers of geography and environmental studies who require a firmer grasp of those scientific principles which underpin their discipline.

Physical geography and global environmental change (910.02 SLA)
This book adopts global environmental change and its repercussions for society, as the coherent integrating theme to reinvigorate the physical geography of the twenty-first century. It looks at environmental systems and impacts, integrating opportunities and challenges in the field.

Understanding landforms (551.41 TAY)
This text offers a thorough overview of all landforms and how they are formed. It contains useful activities to understand a topographic map and provides definition of terminologies used in this field.

Physical geography: science and systems of the human environment (910.02 STR)
This text provides a comprehensive coverage on the breadth and depth necessary to appreciate how humans are changing, and are changed by, the Earth. It also has an emphasis on global change, remote sensing, and tools in geography.

Earth: the biography (551 STE)
A reference book dealing with the earth, its atmosphere and weather, geology, volcanoes, earthquakes, mountains, lakes, and other geographical features. Each chapter examines one of the five essential forces meteor impacts, plate tectonics, the ocean, the atmosphere, and ice that drive and shape our planet and determine its destiny.

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Maps & Atlases

Redrawing the Map of Europe
Let's take on fantasy cartography and redraw the map of Europe.

Mapping China's Territorial Claims
Suspicions between the People's Republic and its neighbours bedevil its boundaries to the east, south and west.

East Africa's Drought
The Economist reports on how East Africa has too little rain now. It will soon have too much.

Overview
Maps are one of geographers' most characteristic tools. They are two-dimensional representations of some portion of Earth's surface showing selected geographic information according to the particular purpose of the map. Consequently, maps take a great variety of forms. Some are just simple road maps intended to show relative location or a path from one place to another, while others contain analytical information displaying human activities such as migration patterns or trade routes. Maps can stand by themselves or collected in a single volume known as atlases. Our libraries have a collection of atlases featuring information ranging from geographical data to human-related indicators.

Books
National Geographic visual atlas of the world (912 NAT)
In a rich blend of cartography and photography, "National Geographic Visual Atlas of the World" celebrates the diverse natural and cultural treasures of the world, through photographic coverage of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites that correlates to beautiful, informative, and accurate maps. In addition to hundreds of brilliant photographs, these newly compiled and designed map spreads provide accompanying textual descriptions.

The atlas of the real world: mapping the way we live (912 DOR)
This reference book has everything we need to make sense of today's world. 366 digitally modified maps known as cartograms depict the areas and countries of the world by their demographic importance on a vast range of topics, ranging from basic data on population, health, wealth and occupation to how many toys we import and who's eating their vegetables.

Reader's Digest illustrated world atlas (912 REA)
A world atlas using computerised digital mapping techniques and cartographic shading to give clarity of detail and 3-D views of the landscape and including sections on the Story of the Earth, and a gazetteer providing country information which includes size, population, capital city, currency, language, and national flag.

Collins illustrated atlas of the world (912 COL)
This atlas contains colour reference maps and continent profiles, including colour photographs, flags for all major countries, statistics and text, and facts and figures for climate and physical features. It also includes an index of place-names.

The 21st century world atlas (912 TWE)
The 21st Century World Atlas is as unique as it is peerless. Satellite maps and reference maps are all based on digital models. The detailed studies of countries are internationally recognized. Text, reference charts, and graphs summarize physical, cultural, social, and economic features concisely and accurately. Digital terrain models are set on black backgrounds creating pages that are as visually dramatic as they are easy to read and comprehend.

Mapping: ways of representing the world (526 DOR)
Illustrates how maps tell us as much about the people and the powers which create them, as about the places they show. Presents historical and contemporary evidence of how the human urge to describe, understand and control the world is presented through the medium of mapping, together with the individual and environmental constraints of the creator of the map.

World atlas of biodiversity: earth's living resources in the 21st century (333.95 GRO)
This atlas addresses the remarkable growth in concern at all levels for living things and the environment, and increased appreciation of the links between the state of ecosystems and the state of humankind. Building on a wealth of research and analysis by the conservation community worldwide, this book provides a comprehensive
and accessible view of key global issues in biodiversity. It outlines some of the broad ecological relationships between humans and the rest of the material world and summarizes information on the health of the planet.

**The atlas of climate change: mapping the world’s greatest challenge** (951.6 DOW)
This atlas illustrates the latest developments in climate change research and its impacts around the world, including the world's oceans. It also estimates the economic impact of climate change and shows updated maps and graphics of changes to the coastlines.

**The Times comprehensive atlas of the world** (912 TIM)
This atlas presents a comprehensive picture of the world using state-of-the-art satellite images of the continents and continues with a series of maps, images, photographs and graphics which present a detailed picture of today's physical world and man's interaction with it. The atlas also includes an account of the evolution of world maps and of significant developments in cartography, and concludes with detailed geographical information on the world's physical features and the world's states and territories.

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**Research and writing methodology**

**An Animated Introduction to Social Science**
Soomo Publishing's "Animated Introduction to Social Science" defines the broad-spectrum discipline of social science. Social Science is made up of anthropology, geography, sociology, political science and psychology. Soomo's video explains the questions each academic discipline seeks to answer and how each comes together within our society.

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**Latest Topics in GIS Research**
Geographic information systems (GIS) allow individuals to view and analyze data overlaid on maps, making connections between activities based on geographic proximity. RAND (Research and Development think tank) researchers have been using GIS mapping for more than 20 years in a wide range of contexts. Below are some of their latest research.

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**Overview**
All geographers collect and analyse geographical information. But depending on the topics they are focusing, geographers deploy different methodology to collect the necessary data. The methods of collection can range from traditional tools such as maps, fieldwork and survey to new technologies like Global Positioning Systems, Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing. To understand why geographers used these methods to collect data, you can refer to the list of titles below.

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**Books**

**Practising human geography** (304.2 PRA)
The book demystifies the study of geographical methodology, offering a wealth of practical advice from the authors’ own research experience. It is a reflexive, critical and highly personal account, combining historical depth with up-to-the-minute examples of research in practice. It is a comprehensive and theoretically informed introduction to the practices of fieldwork, data collection, interpretation and writing, enabling students to make sense of their own data and to develop a critical perspective on the existing literature.

**Conducting research in human geography: theory, methodology and practice** (304.2072 KIT)
The book provides a broad overview of theoretical underpinnings in contemporary human geography and links these with the main research methodologies currently being used. It is designed to guide the user through the complete research process, whether it be a one day field study or a large project, from the nurturing of ideas and development of a proposal, to the design of an enquiry, the generation and analysis of data, to the drawing of conclusions and the presentation of findings.

**Key methods in geography** (910.72 KEY)
This book is an introduction for undergraduates to the principal methodological issues involved in the collection, analysis and presentation of geographical information. It provides an accessible primer, which will be used by students as a reference throughout their degree, on all issues from research design to presentation. A unique feature of the book is that it provides definitions of terms from both human geography and physical geography.

**Doing cultural geography** (304.2 DOI)
Doing Cultural Geography is an introduction to cultural geography that integrates theoretical discussion with applied examples. The emphasis throughout is on doing. Recognising that many undergraduates have difficulty with theory and methods courses, the text demystifies the 'theory' informing cultural geography and encourages students to engage directly with theory in practice.

**Methods in human geography: a guide for students doing research projects** (304.2072 MET)
This book provides an essential guide to current research approaches in human geography. It covers all aspects of undertaking a geography research project, from the selection of an appropriate topic through to the organisation and writing of the final report.

**Qualitative methods in human geography** (304.2 QUA)
This book offers a comprehensive, accessible and practical guide on how to conduct qualitative research in human geography. It shows students how to plan, conduct, interpret and communicate qualitative research.

**Quantitative geography: perspectives on spatial data analysis** (910.285 FOT)
This book explains the philosophy of the new quantitative methodologies and contrasts them with the methods associated with geography's 'Quantitative Revolution' of the 1960s. Key issues discussed include: the nature of modern quantitative geography; spatial data; geographical information systems; visualization; local analysis;
How to Do Your Essays, Exams and Coursework in Geography and Related Disciplines

Written for students who need help doing their coursework and exams, this book focuses mainly on the skills and techniques that apply to essay writing, but also covers other types of assignment such as posters, talks, presentations and web pages. Its basis is that all of these different types of work are centred on clear communication of well-supported responses to the questions or tasks that have been set.

Study skills for geography students: a practical guide

There are moments in everyone's degree when you are expected to do something unfamiliar and daunting - present a seminar, go on a fieldtrip, create a wiki page, lead a lab team - and how to do it or what to expect is unclear. Packed with practical hints, study tips, short cuts, real-life examples and careers advice, this book will prove invaluable throughout your geography degree.

Applied geography: principles and practice

This book offers an introduction to useful research in physical, environmental and human geography.

Journal Articles

Latest from National Geographic Magazine

The latest articles from National Geographic magazine.

Latest from Asian Geographic

Latest news and updates from Asian Geographic website.

Overview

To disseminate the knowledge they produced, geographers usually published their findings as articles in academic journals or popular periodicals. You can retrieve some of these articles from databases in our e-resources page or by visiting the websites of the periodicals.

Library Databases

JSTOR

JSTOR provides online access to archived contents of important scholarly journals, mainly in the humanities and social sciences. Researchers are able to retrieve high-resolution, scanned images of back issues of journals and pages as they were originally printed. Existing titles are updated and new titles are added on an ongoing basis.

ProQuest social science journals

ProQuest Social Science Journals features full text titles covering topics such as urban studies, family studies and international relations published in journals such as Human Rights Quarterly, Journal of Aging & Social Policy, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, as well as other scholarly periodicals.

EBSCOHost academic search premier

A multi-disciplinary database which provides citations, abstracts, and full-text articles from journals in academic subject areas such as biology, chemistry, physics, computer sciences, engineering, medical sciences, arts and literature, sociology and religion.

Popular Periodicals

National Geographic

National Geographic is the flagship magazine of the National Geographic Society. Published monthly, issues of National Geographic contain articles about geography, popular science, history, culture, current events and photography. You can access full-text version of past issues by visiting the magazine's website.

Asian Geographic

Asian Geographic is published by Asian Geographic Magazines Pte Ltd. Published once every 45 days, the magazine contains articles on geography, culture, heritage, society, environment, exploration, conservation and art in Asia. You can access full-text version of past issues by visiting the magazine's website.

Canadian Geographic

Canadian Geographic is the bimonthly magazine of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. The magazine contains articles on physical, historical, political and environmental geography, illustrated with photographs and maps. You can access full-text version of past issues by visiting the magazine's website.

Geographical

Geographical is the magazine of the Royal Geographical Society. Published monthly, the magazine features articles on geographical topics, the environment, conservation and travel. You can access full-text version of past issues by visiting the magazine's website.

Online Resources
Learning Geography on the Go

No time to learn Geography? Or do you need a revision on what you have learned? Or maybe you want to test your Geography knowledge? Try out the following bitesize GCSE Geography learning modules brought to you by BBC.

- Water and rivers
- Coasts
- Ecosystems - the living world
- Glacial landscapes and processes
- Rock landscapes and processes
- Natural hazards
- Weather and climate
- Economic change
- Globalisation
- Development
- Population
- Migration
- Tourism
- Urban environments
- Rural environments
- Energy resources
- Wasting resources
- Sustainability
- Geographical skills

Online Resources

Want to learn more about Geography in the comfort of your home or with just a click on your mouse? Try visiting some of the websites listed below. You will be pleasantly surprised by the amount of information you can find in them.

- Geography Teacher's Association of Singapore
  The Geography Teacher's Association of Singapore (GTAS) is non-profit organisation founded by Singapore geography teachers. The GTAS website is intended to help teachers locate resources quickly and easily and serves as a focal point for Geographers to share in the latest development or just learn something new from someone.

- Geographical Association
  The Geographical Association (GA) is an independent charity with a core objective of furthering the learning and teaching of geography. Visit the GA website to access their acclaimed resources for teachers and students.

- National Council for Geography Education
  The National Council for Geographic Education is a non-profit organisation, chartered in 1915 to enhance the status and quality of geography teaching and learning. NCGE supports geography teaching at all levels — from kindergarten through university. Visit their website to explore their online learning modules for Geography.

- The Center for Global Geography Education
  The Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE) project is being led by the Association of American Geographers. Visit the website for a variety of educational resources and professional development opportunities for higher education faculty, college students, and teachers of Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography in high schools.

- Association of American Geographers
  The Association of American Geographers (AAG) is a non-profit scientific and educational society founded in 1904. For 100 years the AAG has contributed to the advancement of geography. The AAG promotes discussion among its members and with scholars in related fields, in part through the activities of its affinity groups and more than 60 specialty groups. The meetings and activities of our regional divisions provide the opportunity to network with colleagues near you. Visit their website to see how you can take part in some of their activities.

- Royal Geography Society
  Founded in 1830, the Royal Geography Society is a world centre for geography. Visit the Society's website to find out its various Geography-related projects including the research, education, expeditions and fieldwork it is supporting.

- The Economist Videographics
  Want to know how to present those boring statistics in an interesting way? Visit the above website provided by the Economist to view how these numbers can be presented in an informative and creative manner.

- Department of Geography at the National University of Singapore
  Want to major in Geography at the National University of Singapore (NUS)? Drop by the website of the Department of Geography at NUS to learn more about the undergraduate and graduate programmes.

- National University of Singapore Geographical Society
  Visit the official blog page of the NUS Geographical Society. Here, you will find updates on upcoming events/activities and more information with regards to the society.
Accessing the Resources

This page links to:
http://libguides.nl.sg/lkcrl

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