

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE REPORT 1999-2000

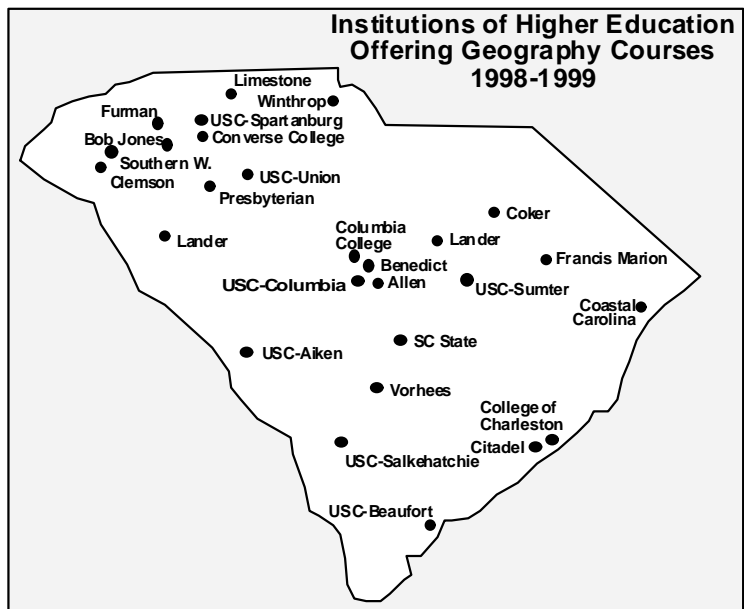
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Summary for State

Based on the survey in the summer and fall of 2000, twenty-seven institutions of higher education in South Carolina offer geography courses on a regular basis. Three of these institutions, USC-Columbia, Clemson and Converse College, offer graduate courses in geography. Only USC-Columbia and Francis Marion offer a degree program. Francis Marion offers a major through a fourth year cooperative program with USC. USC-Columbia offers the only graduate degree in geography. As compared to last year's survey, the total number of geography courses increased appreciably. Thirty-three full-time faculty and thirty-three part-time faculty taught 203 undergraduate and 38 graduate courses with an enrollment of 6,162 (undergraduate) and 660 (graduate). This is an overall increase in enrollments of over 18 percent with large enrollment increases at USC-Columbia, Clemson, Coastal Carolina, and Winthrop. These increases have helped in the hiring of three new full-time faculty in the state.

Geographic Alliance

The South Carolina Geographic Alliance continues to increase its activities and service to K-12 education and some institutions of higher education. Membership in the Alliance has reached over 5,000 and activities have kept pace with the increased growth. The Alliance presented thirty-three workshops across the state with 889 K-12 educators participating and another 15 workshops attracting 669 preservice teachers. Another 335 teachers participated in two Geofests. Twenty teachers participated in the 1999 Alliance Summer Geography Institute. Eleven teacher consultants were sponsored to attend summer institutes in other states and travel to the National Council for Geographic Education's annual meeting. Two thousand copies of the South Carolina Interactive Geography CD, a learning material for K-12 geography classes, were distributed statewide. The CD is based on interactive maps and animation. All the materials are based on examples in South Carolina and relate to the national standards for geography.



Summary Characteristics by South Carolina Institution: 1999-2000

Institutions Offering Geography Courses	Faculty#		Majors			Enrollment in Courses		Courses Taught	
	Full	Part	PhD	MA	Majors	Grad	UG	Grad	UG
Allen University*		1					0		0
Benedict College		1					90		2
Bob Jones University *		4					180		5
Citadel		1					90		3
Clemson University	3	1				40	600	4	16
Coastal Carolina	1	1					590		18
Coker College		1					20		2
College of Charleston	1	1				4	241	1	9
Columbia College*		1					0		0
Converse College		1				10	4	1	1
Francis Marion	2				1		429		15
Furman University		1					30		2
Greenville Tech		1					240		4
Lander University		1					0		0
Limestone College*		1					25		1
Presbyterian College		1					19		2
Southern Wesleyan		1					5		1
SC State University	1	1					165		6
USC – Aiken	1	1					311		8
USC – Beaufort		1					80		4
USC – Columbia	20	5	29^	44^	68^	606	1779	32	52
USC – Salkehatchie	1						152		6
USC – Spartanburg	2						388		13
USC – Sumter		3					99		5
USC – Union*		1					0		0
Voorhees College*		1					60		3
Winthrop University	1	1					565		25
TOTALS	33	33	27	49	69	660	6162	38	203

* Data for these institutions are from 1998-1999 survey.

Of the 33 full-time faculty, 7 are female. Of the 33 part-time faculty, 6 are female.

^ 21 majors are female, 21 masters are female, and 7 PhD students are female.

SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

USC-Columbia. During 1999-2000, the Department of Geography had 20 full-time faculty. Professor William Stanley retired during the year and Professor Julian Minghi will retire at the end of December, 2000. Susan Cutter ended her period as chair of the Department. She was also elected President of the Association of American Geographers. David Cowen is the new chair of the Department. USC searched for a new hire in human geography but was unsuccessful. A new search for two human geographers is underway. Dr. Will Graf from Arizona State has accepted a full professor position in the Department beginning in August, 2001. Geography will take over the entire Callcott building (displacing Sociology) and the Callcott building will be substantially renovated during the years 2001-2002.

The Department again experienced very high graduation rates at the MA/PhD level – 12 MA/MS and 5 PhDs. Of the five PhD graduates, three took tenure-track assistant professor positions, one is in private consulting, and the last works for state government. Compared to last year, the number of completed applications to the graduate program increased by 50%. The number of undergraduate majors is up to 68, compared to 58 last year, nearly one-quarter of which are on the Dean's list. The Department received over \$992k in funding, which more than doubled the amount it received in 1996. The Department also houses the editorial offices of a new journal, *Environmental Hazards*, edited by Susan Cutter and J. Kenneth Mitchell from Rutgers.

Clemson University. Christa Smith, PhD from Tennessee, was hired to replace Terry Young. Although the geography courses are housed in the Department of History, enrollments have showed a dramatic increase, especially at the graduate level. Clemson now has three full-time faculty members.

Winthrop. This is a transition year for Winthrop. Jerry Fish is retiring and a search for a replacement is currently underway. The part-time instructor left in December, 1999. There are currently 15 geography minors along with a high enrollment of 565. Therefore, the upcoming year or two will be critical at this institution.

The Citadel. Jim May is retiring and there are no plans for hiring a replacement, although a historian may continue teaching geography. This is a sad event and is doubly so given that similar institutions (USMA, USAFA) have such success with geography.

Presbyterian College. Dave Needham has retired. The geography courses, offered out of the History Department, are now being taught by Roger Smith.

Coastal Carolina. Enrollments are outstanding as geography is in the core curriculum. The education department also requires world regional geography plus an additional regional course.

STATEWIDE ITEMS of INTEREST. Geography continues to expand in South Carolina. The South Carolina Geographic Alliance participated in revising state social studies standards. The geography standards included in the test earned an "A" grade in the Fordham Foundation review of all state standards. This emphasis is also seen in large college and university enrollments. Expansion of the number of faculty in the state continues. The next few years will see an accelerated pace of turnover among faculty in the state.