

TRADITIONS OF GEOGRAPHY

**Programme : Five year Integrated M.Sc., Geography /
M.Sc., Geography
Course : Cartography**



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FOUR TRADITIONS OF GEOGRAPHY

- **What is meant by Traditional Geography?**
- **Geography** (from Greek: geographia, literally "earth description") is a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth and planets.
- **Geography** has been called "the bridge between the human and the Physical sciences".
- **GEOGRAPHY TOOLS:** Tools to help them investigate their questions. They commonly use **Maps, Globes, Atlases, Aerial photographs, Satellite photographs, Information graphics, and a Computer program called GIS.**

- *In 1964, W.D. Pattison, a Professor at the University of Chicago, wanted to counter the idea that geography was an undisciplined science by saying that geographers had exhibited broad enough consistency such that there were four distinctive, but affiliated traditions.*

- The four traditions of geography were introduced by geographer **William D. Pattison** at the opening session of the annual convention of the **National Council for Geographic Education, Columbus, Ohio, November 29, 1963.**
- His four traditions attempted to define the discipline:
 - 1) Spatial tradition,**
 - 2) Area studies tradition,**
 - 3) Man-land tradition and**
 - 4) Earth science tradition**

Spatial Tradition (also called Locational Tradition)

- **Spatial analysis through maps**
 - **Boundaries and densities**
- **Use maps for Movement and transportation**
- **Quantitative techniques and tools, such as computerized mapping and Geographic Information Systems**
 - **Central Place Theory**
 - **Areal distribution**
- **Spatial patterns**

- Spatial analysis separated from experience; mathematical approach; distance, form, direction, position; mapping; abstract relations; Locational Tradition.

Area Studies Tradition (also called Regional Tradition)

- Description of regions (or areas)
- World regional geography
- International trends and relationships
- How regions are different from one another ?
- The chorographic tradition (regions)

Area Studies Tradition

- Regional geography; nature of places; literary information; associated with History; mapping; unities and wholes; region; point of view; Area-Analysis Tradition.

Man-Land Tradition

- **Man-Land Tradition** is the study of the relationship between human beings and the **land** they live on.
- **Man-Land** looks not only at the impact people impose on their local environment but conversely, at how natural hazards can influence human life.

Man-Land Tradition (also called Human-Environmental, Human-Land)

- **Human impact on nature**
- **Impact of nature on humans**
- **Natural hazards**
 - **Perception of environment**
 - **Environmentalism**
- **Cultural, political and population geography**

Earth Science Tradition

- Physical geography
- The lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere
- Earth-sun interaction
- Offshoots are geology, mineralogy, palaeontology, glaciology, geomorphology and meteorology
- The study of the earth as the home to humans.