

The Department of Geography and the Environment

Geography Major

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About

The Department of Geography and the Environment offers B.A. degrees in Geography and Environmental Studies, and a B.S. in Environmental Science. The department also offers a minor in Geography and supports the Sustainability Studies minor. The department's overarching objective is to integrate the disciplines of geography and environmental science to seek an understanding of human and environmental patterns, the processes that produce those spatial patterns, and salient human and environmental problems that face modern society. The department has two teaching and five research labs; and the department has a full suite of state-of-the-art geospatial software and scientific research equipment.

Required Major Courses (37 credits)

The B.A. in Geography provides a well-rounded and useful education and marketable skills to students with interests in the spatial patterns of society and the environment. It focuses on the interactions of humans with the natural and physical environments of Earth from a special perspective. Towards this end, the program's graduates will have a fundamental understanding of the human social dynamics and physical patterns and processes at the Earth's surface, such as globalization, climatic variation and natural disasters within the context of places, landscapes, and regions. Graduates will also be trained in the use of geospatial technologies as tools in addressing many modern concerns. The program is founded on the principle that geographical knowledge of place, space, and scale can provide essential insights into contemporary social and environmental issues and variation in human cultures and behaviors, and promotes the idea that such insight is critical to managing the Earth at local, regional and global scales.

Course	Title	Credits
	Introductory Geography Requirement	6
GEV 1750	Geo-Techniques	4
GEV 2001	Prof Dev in Geo and Env	1
GEV 2500	Global Change in Local Places	3
GEV 4700	Geographic Information Systems	4
GEV 6005	Senior Research Seminar	1
GEV 6006	Research Colloquium	0
GEV 6006	Research Colloquium	0
GEV 6006	Research Colloquium	0
	GEV Independent Study Requirement	3-6
	GEV Regional Perspectives Course	3
	GEV Geospatial Technology Course	3
	Geography Electives for B.A.	9

Core Curriculum Requirements (38 credits)

Geography Majors meet the following core requirements in the major and therefore are omitted from the summary below:

- Social Science (6 cr)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (47 credits)

Students with a Geography primary major have forty-seven (47) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 37 credits
- **Core Credits:** 38 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 47 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Geography as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.