GEOGRAPHY - BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

The Department of Geography offers a bachelor of arts (BA) degree in geography. The geography BA emphasizes knowledge and awareness of:

- the unique contributions of the discipline to understanding the spatial components of problems and the diverse factors relating to human interaction with the environment;
- the spatial distributions of physical and human characteristics on the Earth surface, the general patterns these form, and the processes that have created and are changing these patterns;
- the major themes of geographical analysis, including absolute and relative location; human and physical characteristics of place; human and environmental relations; movement of people, ideas, and products; and regionalization; and
- the general geographical principles of human-environment interaction, global change, and human spatial organization.

International Bachelor of Arts (IBA)

The International Bachelor of Arts (IBA) is a joint degree between the University of Colorado Boulder and the University of Wollongong, Wollongong, Australia. To earn an IBA in Geography, in addition to completing all the current requirements for the BA with a major in Geography at the home institution, students must complete one full-time semester experiential, customized, international learning experience at the non-home institution.

Requirements

Students must complete the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and the required courses below.

In addition to a standard degree in Geography, the Department offers transcripted concentrations in Geographic Information Science, Human Geography, Environment-Society Geography and Physical Geography. Coursework required for each concentration is listed below.

Students must complete at least 37 and no more than 45 credit hours in Geography with grades of C- or better (23 credit hours must be upper-division). No pass/fail grades are allowed in the major. Transfer students in Geography with grades of C- or better (23 credit hours must be upper-division). No course may be used to fulfill more than one requirement for the major.

All courses that can be used to meet College of Arts and Sciences core curriculum requirements are indicated with a footnote.

Required Courses and Credit Hours (all concentrations)

Certain course selections are better preparation for certain concentrations.

GEOG 1001 Environmental Systems: Climate and Vegetation 4
GEOG 1011 Environmental Systems: Landscapes and Water 4
GEOG 3023 Statistics for Geography 4
Select one of the following human geography courses: 3
GEOG 1962 Geographies of Global Change
GEOG 1972 Environment-Society Geography
GEOG 1982 World Regional Geography

Select at least one of the following methods courses: 3
GEOG 4001 Field Methods in Human Geography
GEOG 4031 Human Geographies
GEOG 4032 Geographies of Global Change
GEOG 4033 Geographies of China
GEOG 4034 Geographies of South Asia
GEOG 4035 Geography of Africa

Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 1982</td>
<td>World Regional Geography</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 1972</td>
<td>Environment-Society Geography</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 1962</td>
<td>Geographies of Global Change</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4031</td>
<td>Field Methods in Human Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4032</td>
<td>Geographies of Global Change</td>
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<td>GEOG 4033</td>
<td>Geographies of China</td>
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</tr>
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<td>GEOG 4034</td>
<td>Geographies of South Asia</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4035</td>
<td>Geography of Africa</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 Core curriculum course.

General Geography Concentration

In addition to the courses required of all concentrations complete the following:

Select at least one of the following: 3
GEOG 3351 Biogeography
GEOG 3402 Natural Hazards
GEOG 3422 Political Ecology
GEOG 3511 Introduction to Hydrology
GEOG 3601 Principles of Climate
GEOG 3672 Gender and the Global Economy
GEOG 3682 Geography of International Development
GEOG 3692 Introduction to Global Public Health
GEOG 3742 Place, Power, and Contemporary Culture

Take upper division electives within Geography to reach 23 upper-division credit hours in the major.

Total Credit Hours 13-17

Human Geography Concentration

In addition to the courses required of all concentrations complete the following:

GEOG 3742 Place, Power, and Contemporary Culture 3
or GEOG 3682 Geography of International Development

A third-year university-level proficiency in a foreign language appropriate to the geographic concentration is required. 1

Select three of the following electives: 9
GEOG 3422 Political Ecology
GEOG 3672 Gender and the Global Economy
GEOG 3682 Geography of International Development
GEOG 3692 Introduction to Global Public Health
GEOG 3742 Place, Power, and Contemporary Culture
GEOG 3812 Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean
GEOG 3822 Geography of China
GEOG 3832 Geographies of South Asia
GEOG 3862 Geography of Africa
GEOG 4173 Research Seminar

Total Credit Hours 21-23
Physical Geography Concentration

In addition to the courses required of all concentrations complete the following:

**Required GEOG course work:**

Select at least two of the following: 6-8

- GEOG 3351 Biogeography
- GEOG 3511 Introduction to Hydrology
- GEOG 3601 Principles of Climate
- GEOG 4241 Principles of Geomorphology

Select at least two of the following electives: 6-8

- GEOG 3251 Mountain Geography
- GEOG 3301 Analysis of Climate and Weather Observations
- GEOG 3351 Biogeography
- GEOG 3511 Introduction to Hydrology
- GEOG 3601 Principles of Climate
- GEOG 4120 Special Topics in Geography
- GEOG 4173 Research Seminar
- GEOG 4201 Biometeorology
- GEOG 4241 Principles of Geomorphology
- GEOG 4251 Fluvial Geomorphology
- GEOG 4261 Glaciers and Permafrost
- GEOG 4271 The Arctic Climate System
- GEOG 4311 Watershed Biogeochemistry
- GEOG 4321 Snow Hydrology
- GEOG 4331 Mountain Climatology
- GEOG 4371 Forest Geography: Principles and Dynamics
- GEOG 4401 Soils Geography
- GEOG 3930 Internship (may be applied to the concentration on a case-by-case basis)
- GEOG 4990 Senior Thesis (may be applied to the concentration on a case-by-case basis)

Take one upper division elective from either the Geographic Information Science, Human Geography, or Physical Geography list. 3-4

**Ancillary mathematics and science course work:**

Two semester sequence in calculus

Select one of the following sequences: 8-10

- MATH 1300 Calculus 1  
  & MATH 2300 and Calculus 2
- APPM 1350 Calculus 1 for Engineers  
  & APPM 1360 and Calculus 2 for Engineers

Three semesters of physics and chemistry, including related labs

Select three of the following: 14-15

- PHYS 1110 General Physics 1
- PHYS 1120 General Physics 2  
  & PHYS 1140 and Experimental Physics 1
- CHEM 1113 General Chemistry 1  
  & CHEM 1114 and Laboratory in General Chemistry 1
- CHEM 1133 General Chemistry 2  
  & CHEM 1134 and Laboratory in General Chemistry 2

Total Credit Hours 37-45

1 Core curriculum course.
Geography Information Science Concentration

In addition to the courses required of all concentrations complete the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4103</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select three of the following electives: 9-12

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 4043</td>
<td>Cartography 2: Interactive and Multimedia Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4093</td>
<td>Remote Sensing of the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 4110</td>
<td>Special Topics in Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 4120</td>
<td>Special Topics in Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4173</td>
<td>Research Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 4203</td>
<td>Geographic Information Science: Modeling Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4303</td>
<td>GIS Programming for Spatial Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 3930</td>
<td>Internship (may be applied to the concentration on a case-by-case basis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 4990</td>
<td>Senior Thesis (may be applied to the concentration on a case-by-case basis)</td>
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Take one upper division elective from either the Human Geography, Environment and Society Geography, or Physical Geography list. 3-4

Total Credit Hours 16-20

Graduating in Four Years

This applies only to the "General Geography" degree. Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for information on eligibility. The concept of "adequate progress" as it is used here only refers to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee: it is not a requirement for the major. To maintain adequate progress in geography, students should meet the following requirements:

- By the end of the third semester, complete GEOG 1001, GEOG 1011, and one of the following: GEOG 1962, GEOG 1972, GEOG 1982 or GEOG 1992.
- By the end of the sixth semester, complete GEOG 1962, GEOG 1972, GEOG 1982, or GEOG 1992 or an approved upper-division human geography course (must be different than the course used to complete the previous requirement) and 9 credit hours of upper-division geography courses.
- By the end of the sixth semester, complete GEOG 2053 or GEOG 3053 and GEOG 3023.
- By the eighth semester, complete the remaining upper-division credit hours.