

Curriculum map
GEOGRAPHY

Learning outcomes (LOs): Having completed a major in Geography, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major biophysical and social patterns in the world, and the key drivers that give rise to those patterns
2. Identify and use geospatial techniques to analyze spatial data towards problem solving or modeling
3. Exhibit the ability to critically analyze geographic problems, ask research questions, understand methods, and conduct research
4. Demonstrate effective written, verbal, and graphic communication skills

Key: I = introduces outcome; D = develops outcome; A = assesses mastery of outcome

Course(s)	Title/description	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4
	<i>Introductory (all three)</i>				
141	The Natural Environment	I	I	I	
142	Introduction to Human Geography	I		I	
181	Our Digital Earth		I	I	
	<i>Regional/Synthesis (1 course)</i>				
201	World Regional Geography	D		D	I (?)
202	Geography of Europe	D		D	
204	Geography of Russia and Neighbors	D		D	
205	Geography of Pacific Asia	D		D	
208	Geography of the United States and Canada	D		D	
209	Geography of the Middle East and North Africa	D		D	D
214	Geography of Latin America	D		D	
360	Watershed Science and Policy	D	D	D	A
470	Advanced Geography of European-American Regions	A		D	
471	North American Historical Landscapes	A		D	
475	Advanced Geography of Non-European American Regions	A		D	
ENVS 201	Introduction to Environmental Studies	D		D	
ENVS 455	Sustainability			D	
	<i>GIS/Techniques (2 courses)</i>				
481	GIScience I		D	I	D
482	GIScience II		A	D	D
485	Remote Sensing I		A	D	D

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Course(s)	Title/description	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4
486	Remote Sensing II		A	A	D
490	GIScience [Topic]		A	D	D
491	Advanced Geographic Information Systems		A	A	D
493	Advanced Cartography		A	A	A
495	Geographic Data Analysis		A	A	A
497	Qualitative Methods in Geography		A	A	A
	<i>Physical (2 courses)</i>				
321	Climatology	D			
322	Geomorphology	D	D		
323	Biogeography	D		D	D
361	Global Environmental Change	D			
421	Advanced Climatology	A			
423	Advanced Biogeography	A			A
425	Hydrology and Water Resources	A	D	D	
427	Fluvial Geomorphology	A	D	A	
430	Long-Term Environmental Change	A		A	D
432	Climatological Aspects of Global Change	A			
433	Fire and Natural Disturbances	A	D	D	A
PHYS/CHEM	Intro Physics and Chemistry – required for Physical Track				
	<i>Human (2 courses)</i>				
341	Population and Environment	D		D	A
342	Geography of Globalization	D			
343	Society, Culture, and Place	D			
441	Political Geography	A		D	D
442	Urban Geography	A		A	
443	Global Migration	A			
444	Cultural Geography	A		A	A
448	Tourism and Development	A			
461	Environmental Alteration	A	D	D	D
463	Geography, Law, and the Environment	A		A	A
465	Environment and Development	A			
466	Gender and Environment	A			
467	International Water Policy	A		A	
ENVS 420	Perspectives Nature and Society	A			
ENVS 450	Political Ecology	A			

Learning outcomes explanations
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The Department of Geography offers the Bachelor of Arts in Geography and the Bachelor of Science in Geography. An undergraduate minor in Geography is also offered.

Learning outcomes for Geography majors

Students majoring in geography are required to take three introductory level courses, seven courses in geography core subjects: physical/environmental geography, human geography, geographic methods/techniques, and regional geography, and three upper-division elective courses in one of five tracks (physical; environmental; cultural, politics, place; geographic information science; geographic education).

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major biophysical and social patterns in the world, and of the key drivers that give rise to those patterns.
2. Identify and use geospatial techniques to analyze spatial data towards problem solving or modeling.
3. Exhibit the ability to critically analyze geographic problems, ask research questions, understand methods in geography, and conduct research using primary and/or secondary sources.
4. Demonstrate effective written, verbal, and graphic communication skills.

Track-specific learning objectives

Environmental

Interpret the relationship of human and natural systems as a result of interactions between processes operating at local to global scales.
Develop an awareness of the natural and cultural landscapes of several regions of the world and investigate the processes that form them.

Physical

Demonstrate understanding of the important processes that affect the distribution and abundance of life, the geomorphic processes that shape the surface of the earth, and the climate system at local to global scales.

Culture, Politics, and Place

Understand the socio-economic, cultural, and political processes that shape places and the connections between them.

Geographic Information Science

Demonstrate understanding of geospatial analysis and the GIScience project process.

Geographic Education

Combine pedagogical training with knowledge of the core concepts of geography to enable students to teach geography at the K-12 level.

Learning outcomes for Geography minors (draft):

Students must take at least six courses (24 credits) in geography, including one regional geography or techniques course, one upper-division physical geography course, and one upper-division human geography course.

1. Exhibit a general understanding of major biophysical and social patterns in the world, and of the key drivers that give rise to those patterns.
2. Exhibit the ability to critically analyze geographic problems and understand methods in geography.

General Education offerings
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Geography spans the natural and social sciences. Six courses in the Physical Geography track are in the Science group requirement. These courses are grounded in atmospheric, biological, geological, and Earth system sciences, and present opportunities for students to synthesize across these disciplines. The courses range from introductory (The Natural Environment) to advanced. Twelve courses in the Environmental track or the Culture, Politics, and Place track satisfy the Social Sciences group requirement. These courses address cultural, political, and economic processes that shape regions and interactions between societies and the environment.

The objectives of the Multicultural requirements align particularly well with the department-level learning outcomes as well as the learning outcomes of several individual courses. Specifically, the General Education goals of developing an understanding of the nature of the historical past and its relationship to the present and the diversity of human experience through the study of various cultures strongly relate to our department-level learning outcome of understanding the major biophysical and social patterns in the world, and of the key drivers that give rise to those patterns. Nine courses fulfilling the International Cultures requirement include two introductory courses, one 400-level and three 200-level regionally focused courses, and two courses on human-environment interactions in non-western regions. Four 300 and 400-level courses fulfill the Identity, Pluralism, and Tolerance requirement. These courses address cultural and political forces that shape societies and landscapes. Two courses fulfill the American Cultures requirement. These are an introductory regional course on North America, and an upper-level course on American historical landscapes.