

GEOGRAPHY MAJOR (B.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/geography/program/ba/geography>

Description

The geography major provides undergraduates with a solid foundation in geography by uniting social and biophysical sciences, humanities and technology to examine the factors that make a place or environment unique. Connecting academic inquiry to real-world problem solving, you will develop critical thinking skills and be prepared to transfer classroom and field experience into a wide range of careers.

With interests ranging from globalization to climate change and sustainability, urbanization to community development at home and abroad, UNH geography graduates have gone on to careers in urban, regional and transportation planning, community development, environmental conservation and natural resources management, sustainability science, geographic information science, market research, locational analysis, population studies, foreign aid, international diplomacy and education.

Requirements

To earn a bachelor of arts in geography, students must complete 10 geography courses with a minimum grade of C-minus:

Code	Title	Credits
Select three foundation courses.		
Select two skills courses.		
Select five elective courses.		

Foundation Courses

Foundation courses are intended to provide students a basic understanding of human, physical, and world regional geography. It is recommended they be taken as early as possible in a student's program.

All geography majors must complete three foundation courses:

Code	Title	Credits
GEOG 401	World Regions: Europe and the Americas	4
or GEOG 402	World Regions: Asia and Africa	
GEOG 572	Geography of the Natural Environment	4
GEOG 581	Society, Environment and Justice	4
Total Credits		12

Skills Courses

Skills courses are required of all majors. Skills courses provide students with basic analytical and technical skills used in geography.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two skills courses		
GEOG 590	Field Research	4
or GEOG 595	Statistics for Spatial Science	
GEOG 658	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems ¹	4
Total Credits		8

¹ Students are encouraged to complete GEOG 595 Statistics for Spatial Science, or another statistics course approved by their advisor before enrolling in GEOG 658 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems.

Elective Courses

Elective courses may be any additional four geography courses, excluding 401 or 402, PLUS one 600+ writing intensive course (Discovery Program Capstone).

Independent study courses including GEOG 695 Internship, [GEOG 795](#) Special Project, and [GEOG 799](#) Honors Thesis may be applied to the major elective requirement once if taken for a total of four credit hours.

Code	Title	Credits
GEOG 405	There Is No Planet B	4
GEOG 473	Elements of Weather	4
GEOG 530	China: People, Politics and Economy	4
GEOG 540	Geography of the Middle East	4
GEOG 550	Sub-Saharan Africa: Environmental Politics and Development	4
GEOG 560	Natural Hazards and Human Disasters	4
GEOG 572	Geography of the Natural Environment	4
GEOG 574	Global Geomorphology	4
GEOG 581	Society, Environment and Justice	4
GEOG 582	Global Trade and Local Development	4
GEOG 584	Political Geography	4
GEOG 591	Making Maps: GIS Fundamentals	4
GEOG 670	Climate and Society	4
GEOG #671	Weather Forecasting	4
GEOG 673	Political Ecology	4
GEOG 685	Population and Development	4
GEOG 686	World Economy and Globalization	4
GEOG 757	Remote Sensing of the Environment	4
GEOG 759	Digital Image Processing for Natural Resources	4
GEOG 760	Geographic Information Systems in Natural Resources	4

Geotechniques

Students interested in geographic information systems, remote sensing, locational analysis and other geographic techniques may specialize in Geotechniques by completing three 700-level methods courses in Geography (GEOG 750-769).

Additional Requirements

Major department courses may be used to satisfy two Discovery category requirements excluding courses taken for foundation course credit and unlimited in the case of a second major.

The university's foreign language requirement may not be fulfilled by American Sign Language except by petition.

Students intending to major in geography should consult with the department chairperson.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Integrate biophysical and socio-cultural disciplinary traditions to explain the complex interrelationships between and among human-natural systems spanning local to global scales.
- Communicate geographic concepts, research, and methods of analysis professionally and effectively through written products, oral presentations, and visualizations appropriate for the intended audience.