

B.S. Degree in Geography Program Requirements



Department of Geosciences Oregon State University

104 Wilkinson Hall
541-737-1201

Name: _____ Advisor: _____

OSU Email Address: _____ Date: _____

Geography is the study of spatial and temporal variations in natural and human processes. The BS degree program focuses on the scientific and technical training of professional geographers. It is an appropriate choice for students interested in careers or graduate studies in geographic techniques, resource use and land planning, physical geography, environmental science or preparing to enter a teacher training program. Students will become acquainted with each of the aspects of geography offered by the department, but will place special emphasis on geographic information science, resource geography and physical geography. Outside of the geography curriculum, students will develop their mathematical, statistical, and computer skills and meet the core curriculum requirements of the university.

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS: OSU's minimum credit hour requirements are met by combining all the courses taken below **plus other electives of your choice**. Additional electives may be needed to reach the following university degree requirements. If you graduated from high school in or after 1997, you were required to have taken two years of high school foreign language. If this requirement is not met prior to admission, you will need to take two terms of a foreign language (one term of OSU languages equals one year of high school language).

- _____ Foreign language requirement met? How: _____
- _____ 180 credits – Minimum number of credits required for a BS degree
- _____ 60 credits – Minimum number of upper division credits (courses numbered 300 and/or 400) required on a program.
- _____ Must maintain a 2.0 GPA and take your last 45 credits of course work from OSU.

Below are the program requirements that need to be completed in order to earn the Bachelor of Science degree in geography. Meet with your advisor before you register each term. Make sure you check prerequisites and other course restrictions before attempting to register. You should only schedule courses for which you do not have the prerequisites after consultation with the instructor and your advisor. Any departure from these requirements must be approved by the Department of Geosciences, College of Science, and/or university advisors, depending on the source of the requirement. Check with your geography advisor.

Note: S, U, F and N grades are not accepted as meeting major requirements in the Department of Geosciences.

I. **UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE CORE REQUIREMENTS** (48 credits, plus 3-credit WIC course=51 credits)

Skills Courses (15 credits total from the BCC approved list)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing I (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness (3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing II (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Math 105 or higher (3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing III (3) | |

Perspectives Courses (24 credits total from the BCC approved list and no more than two courses taken from the same department)

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Science plus laboratory (4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Science with laboratory (4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western Culture (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Diversity (3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literature & the Arts (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Processes & Institutions (3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of additional Biological or Physical Science with laboratory (4) | |

Difference, Power & Discrimination Courses (3 credits from BCC approved list)

Synthesis Courses (6 credits total from the BCC approved list and from different departments)

- Contemporary Global Issues (3)
- Science, Technology & Society (3)

WIC (Writing Intensive Course) requirement is met by taking one of the following courses of which GEO 409 is required for the BS (see second page). (3)

GEO 323 Climatology (4) - GEO 330 Geography of International Development and Globalization (3) - GEO 409 Contemporary Earth Science Issues (3)

II. MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (77 credits)**Geography Background Courses (14 credits)**

- MATH 112 Elementary Functions (4) or approved Mathematic elective _____
- STAT 201 Principles of Statistics (3) **and** STAT 202 Principles of Statistics (3)
- OR** STAT 351 Introduction to Statistical Methods (4) **and** STAT 352 Introduction to Statistical Methods (4)
- BI 101 General Biology (4)
- Computer intensive course for College requirement (met by GEO 360)

Geosciences Core Courses (23 credits)

- GEO 201 Physical Geology (4)
- GEO 202 Earth System Science (4)
- GEO 301 Map and Image Interpretation (4)
- GEO 309 Environmental Justice (3)
- GEO 322 Surface Processes (4)
- GEO 407 Seminar: Student to Professional (1)
- GEO 409 Contemporary Earth Science Issues (3)

Human and Regional Geography Courses (12 credits)

- GEO 105 Geography of the Non-Western World (3)
- GEO 106 Geography of the Western World (3)
- GEO 330 Geography of International Development and Globalization (WIC) (3)

Choose one of the upper division courses listed below for a total of three credits:

- GEO 325 Geography of Africa (3)
- GEO 326 Geography of Europe (3)
- GEO 327 Geography of Asia (3)
- GEO 328 Geography of Latin America (3)
- GEO 329 Geography of the United States and Canada (3)
- GEO 339 Area Studies

Geographic Information Science (11 credits)

- GEO 360 Cartography (4)
- GEO 365 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (4)

Choose one of the upper division courses listed below for a minimum of three credits:

- GEO 444 Remote Sensing (4)
- GEO 445 Computer-Assisted Cartography (3)
- GEO 460 Multimedia Cartography (4)
- GEO 465 Geographic Information Systems and Science (4)
- GEO 466 Digital Image Processing (3)

Physical Geography (8 credits)

- GEO 323 Climatology (WIC) (4)
- GEO 324 Geography of Life Species Distribution and Conservation (4)

Resource Geography (9 credits)

- GEO 420 Geography of Resource Use (3)
- GEO 423 Land Use (3)

Choose one of the courses listed below for a total of three credits:

- GEO 335 Introduction to Water Science and Policy (3)
- GEO 422 Reconstructing Historical Landscapes (3)
- GEO 424 International Water Resources Management (3)
- GEO 425 Water Resources Management in the United States (3)
- GEO 426 Third-World Resource Development (3)
- GEO 451 Environmental Site Planning (3)
- GEO 452 Principles and Practices of Rural and Resource Planning (3)
- GEO 453 Resource Evaluation Methods/EIS (3)

Baccalaureate Core = 48 credits
Major Requirements = 77 credits
Upper Division Electives = 55 credits
Total = 180 credits

III. UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVES (Choose one of the five methods below to earn a total of 55 credits)

1. Climate and Water Science Option (21 credits) plus an additional 34 credits of upper division courses.
2. Geographic Hazards and Sustainable Communities Option (21 credits) plus an additional 34 credits of upper division courses.
3. International Development, Peace and Security Option (21 credits) plus an additional 34 credits of upper division courses.
4. Geographic Information Science Certificate (27 credits) plus an additional 28 credits of upper division courses.
5. Selection of upper division courses in consultation with advisor to total a minimum of 55 credits of upper division courses.