

B.A. 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 BA degree program is an appropriate choice for students preparing for an international career, a teacher training program with a social science emphasis, management studies, military science, or employment in the nontechnical areas of professional geography, recreation, travel and tourism, or environmental education. It is well suited for students preparing for graduate studies in human geography, international studies, and potentially for education and law. Students will become acquainted with each of the aspects of geography offered by the department—regional, geographic information science, physical and resource geography. In addition to the geography curriculum, students will develop communication skills, study a foreign language and satisfy the core curriculum requirements of the university.

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS: OSU's minimum 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 BA degree.
- _____ 60 credits – Minimum number of upper division credits required on a program.
- _____ Must maintain a 2.00 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 Arts 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.

ii. **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"/> Difference, Power & Discrimination (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of additional Biological or Physical Science with laboratory (4) |

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 BA (see second page). (3)

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

lii. **SECOND YEAR FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT**

All students receiving a BA degree shall have proficiency in a foreign language equivalent to that attained at the end of the second year sequence with a grade of C- or better as certified by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature.

II. MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (82 credits)**Geography Background Courses (10 credits)**

- MATH 112 Elementary Functions (4) or an approved math elective
Liberal Arts electives (choose 6 total credits in addition to required BCC courses. Music or art must be theory or history courses.)
- _____ (3) _____ (3)

Geosciences Core Courses (23 credits)

Choose one of the courses below for a total of 4 credits.

- GEO 101 The Solid Earth (4)
- GEO 201 Physical Geology (4)

Choose one of the courses below for a total of 4 credits.

- GEO 102 The Surface of the Earth (4)
- GEO 103 Exploring the Deep: Geography of the World's Oceans (4)
- GEO 202 Earth System Science (4)

Take all the courses listed below for a total of 15 credits.

- GEO 301 Map & 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 (WIC) (3)

Human and Regional Geography Courses (21 credits)

- GEO 105 Geography of the Non-Western World (3)
- GEO 106 Geography of the Western World (3)
- GEO 330 Geo. of Int'l Development and Globalization (WIC) (3)

Choose four of the upper division courses listed below for a total of 12 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 US and Canada (3)
- GEO 339 Area Studies (3)

Geographic Information Science (8 credits)

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

Physical Geography (8 credits)

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

Resource Geography (12 credits)

- GEO 300 Environmental Conservation and Sustainability (3)
- GEO 420 Geography of Resource Use (3)

Upper division Resource Geography (choose two from courses below for a minimum of six credits)

- GEO 335 Introduction to Water Science and Policy (4)
- GEO 422 Reconstructing Historical Landscapes (3)
- GEO 423 Land Use (3)
- GEO 424 International Water Resources Management (3)
- GEO 425 Water Resource 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/IES (3)

*Baccalaureate Core = 48 credits
Major Requirements = 82 credits
Upper Division Electives = 50 credits
Total = 180 credits*

III. UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVES (Choose one of the five methods below to earn a total of 50 credits)

1. Climate and Water Science Option (21 credits) plus an additional 29 credits of upper division courses.
2. Geographic Hazards and Sustainable Communities Option (21 credits) plus an additional 29 credits of upper division courses.
3. International Development, Peace and Security Option (21 credits) plus an additional 29 credits of upper division courses.
4. Geographic Information Science Certificate (27 credits) plus an additional 23 credits of upper division courses.
5. Selection of upper division courses in consultation with advisor to total a minimum of 50 credits of upper division courses.