

Checklist for the BA Degree in Geography

Geography is the study of the physical and social processes that shape the world we live in. It is an integrative discipline especially suited to examining complex and dynamic interactions between factors such as physical environmental processes, resource use, urbanization, economic development, conservation, population change and migration, geopolitics, cultural change, and a humanistic sense of place. Geographic subfields and research topics cover an extraordinary range of pressing world issues: global climate change, environmental degradation, resource depletion, natural hazards, economic globalization, migration and urbanization, world hunger, human and indigenous rights, ethnic and religious conflict—virtually all of the problems facing countries and communities today are the focus of geographic research. Geographers make use of multiple methods in this work, from interviews, observations, archival research, and mapping to new kinds of participatory and collaborative research and the use of satellite imagery and GIS. Students interested in the Geography BA with a concentration in Environmental Geography should refer to that separate checklist.

Introductory Courses (8 cr)

100 Global Environmental Change (required) (4 cr)

plus one of the following:

102 The Human Landscape (4 cr)

150 The Earth Transformed: World Environmental Issues (4 cr)

Skills and Techniques (9 cr)

314 Junior Year Writing (required) (3 cr)

340 Quantitative Methods (required) (3 cr)

plus one of the following:

352 Computer Cartography (3 cr)

426 Introduction to Remote Sensing (3 cr)

468 GIS and Spatial Analysis (3 cr)

Upper-Division Elective Courses (24 credits)

Students take 24 credits in Geography elective courses numbered 200 and above. Note that in general, Geography courses are the even-numbered GeoSci courses in the course catalog (*e.g.*, GeoSci 354 and GeoSci 360).

Students must also fulfill the College of Natural Sciences foreign language requirement.

Areas of concentration for majors:

Geography majors are encouraged to choose an area of concentration such as Environmental Issues and Conservation; Urban and Economic Geography; Cultural and Humanistic Geography; Physical-Environmental Geography; and Maps, GIS and Visualization Geography.