GEOGRAPHY UF ONLINE

Geography is the science of place, space, and environment. Each place on earth is distinguished by a unique mix of natural resources, cultural practices, and socio-economic and political systems. Geographers study what makes each place unique, as well as the connections and interactions between places.

About this Program

- **College:** Liberal Arts and Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS)
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Arts
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** Email (liangmao@ufl.edu) | 1.855.99GATOR
- **Additional Information**
- **Related Geography Programs**

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Geography offers exciting undergraduate degrees at UF. Students learn from world-renowned faculty and award-winning mentors, and contribute to groundbreaking research, all while studying topics that have great environmental and social significance. Geography is an integrated and highly interdisciplinary field of study spanning the physical world and society. It is also a hands-on discipline, with a strong emphasis on computer-based tools and field studies.

Geographers can choose to study an enormous range of subjects, essentially anything that has a spatial component. Students who major in geography use the lens of space to examine issues as diverse as climate variability and change on the African continent, malaria outbreaks in Africa and South America, deforestation and land conflict in the Amazon, and the origin and spread of blues music in the Southeastern United States. Across the globe, geographers study tropical cyclones, river restoration, disease outbreaks, the role of parks and other protected areas, changes in land cover, forest management and fragmentation, community conservation, emerging infectious diseases, environmental influences on the elderly, and economic development.

Geography explores the relationship between human and biophysical systems and deals with some of the most critical issues of our time such as environmental hazards, climate change, sustainability of resource management systems, international development, and community and urban planning. Understanding the concept of place, including how and why places differ from each other, is a central concern. Students who have social and economic interests can enter into careers in international development, urban and regional planning, geographic information systems, and environmental consultancy. Students who combine the study of socioeconomic factors and the biophysical world can work in resource management, conservation, environmental assessment, and watershed and coastal planning.

Coursework for the Major

The Bachelor of Arts degree requires 33-35 credits of coursework in geography, plus 3 credits of STA 2023. Students must earn a minimum grade of C in all coursework for the major.
• Geospatial Information Analysis certificate (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/LAS_UCT04)
• Medical Geography certificate (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/LAS_UCT19)
• Meteorology and Climatology certificate (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/LAS_UCT10)

Critical Tracking

Critical Tracking records each student’s progress in courses that are required for entry to each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

For degree requirements outside of the major, refer to CLAS Degree Requirements: Structure of a CLAS Degree.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (http://www.flvc.org/cpp/displayRecord.jsp?cip=450701&track=01) may be used for transfer students.

Semester 1
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 2
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 3
• Complete 1 geography course
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4
• Complete 1 additional geography course (1 of the 2 must be GEO 2200) or complete STA 2023 with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 5
• Complete all critical-tracking courses (STA 2023 and 2 geography courses, 1 of which must be GEO 2200) with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Model Semester Plan

Students are expected to complete the writing requirement while in the process of taking the courses below. Students are also expected to complete the general education international (GE-N) and diversity (GE-D) requirements concurrently with another general education requirement (typically, GE-C, H, or S).

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student’s academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.
Semester Seven
GEO 4930  Senior Seminar  1
Select one GEO/GIS 4000 level technique course:  3-4
GIS 3043  Foundations of Geographic Information Systems
GIS 4021C  Aerial Photo Interpretation
GIS 4037  Digital Image Processing
Electives  6
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)  3
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences  3
Credits  16-17

Semester Eight
GEO 3000/4000 Level (Systematic)  3
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)  3
Electives  10
Credits  16
Total Credits  120

Electives to reach the 120-credit minimum will vary depending on whether students select minimum or maximum credit course options.

Academic Learning Compact
A major in geography enables students to know the earth's physical environment, to learn social, cultural and economic concepts from spatial and regional perspectives, and to understand the relationship between environment and society. Students will learn how geographic techniques, skills and concepts are applied in the subfields of geography. Computer-based lab assignments teach students how to analyze geographic information and to apply an interpretation of data toward problem solving or modeling. They will be able to interpret and to effectively communicate information spatially, graphically and/or with statistics.

The Bachelor of Arts in geography enables students to learn how geographic techniques, skills and concepts are applied in various subfields of geography. The Bachelor of Science enables students to learn basic concepts in sciences related to the earth and its atmosphere.

Before Graduating Students Must
• Complete a capstone exam in GEO 4930, as developed by geography faculty.
• Complete a capstone portfolio in GEO 4930, evaluated by geography faculty.
• Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify and describe the physical and human characteristics of Earth and its regions, the essentials of human#environment interactions, and the techniques of geographic science.

Critical Thinking
2. Analyze geographic information and apply interpretation of data toward problem solving or modeling.

Communication
3. Interpret and effectively communicate information spatially, graphically and/or with statistics.

Curriculum Map
I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>SLO 1</th>
<th>SLO 2</th>
<th>SLO 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEO 2000-4000 level Regional Geography</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEO 2000 level Human Geography</td>
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<td>GEO 2200</td>
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<td>GEO 2200L</td>
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<td>GEO 3162C</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEO 4930</td>
<td>R, A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIS 3043 or GIS 4001C</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>STA 2023</td>
<td>I</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.A. Only Plus 15</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>additional credits in the department</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.S. Only Plus 12</td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>additional credits in the department and 22 credits outside the department with CHM, GLY, MET, PHY, SWS prefixes</td>
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Assessment Types
• Capstone exam
• Portfolio