

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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 (p. 1)
- **Specializations:** Environmental Geosciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_UFO/GPY_BA01_UFO/)
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** 1.855.99GATOR | Email (liangmao@ufl.edu)
- **More Info**

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

Department Information

The Geography Department offers a range of topics in contemporary geography and geospatial science, rich and lively cultural and learning environments, B.A. and B.S. undergraduate degrees, M.A., M.S., and PhD degrees, as well as the largest Medical Geography program in the United States.

Website (<https://geog.ufl.edu/>)

CONTACT

Email (liangmao@ufl.edu) | 352.392.0494 (tel) | 352.392.8855 (fax)

P.O. Box 117315
330 Newell Drive
3141 TURLINGTON HALL
GAINESVILLE FL 32611-7315

Map (<http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0267>)

Curriculum

- Combination Degrees
- Geographical Science and Sustainability | BA
- Geography
- Geography Minor
- Geography Minor UF Online
- Geography UF Online
- Geospatial Information Analysis Certificate
- Medical Geography Certificate
- Medical Geography in Global Health Minor
- Meteorology and Climatology Certificate

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.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Coursework		
GEO 2200 & 2200L	Physical Geography and Physical Geography Laboratory	4
GEO 2420 or GEO 2500	Introduction to Human Geography Global and Regional Economies	3
GEO 3162C	Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	4
<i>Technique Courses</i>		
Select two:		6-8
GIS 3001C	Spatial Maps and Graphs	
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing	
<i>Regional Geography Course</i>		
GEA 3405 or GEA 3600	Geography of Latin America Geography of Africa	3
GEA 3500 or GEA 3600	Geography of Europe Geography of Africa	3
<i>Systematic Geography Courses</i>		
Select 12 credits (minimum):		12
GEO 2006	Natural Hazards Geography	
GEO 2242	Extreme Weather	
GEO 3250	Climatology	
GEO 3502	Economic Geography	
GEO 4905	Individual Work	
GEO 4911	Undergraduate Research in Geography	
GEO 4938	Selected Topics in Geography ¹	
GEO 4944	Internship	
GEO 4970	Honors Thesis	
GIS 2002	The Digital Earth	

GIS 3001C	Spatial Maps and Graphs	
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing	
GIS 4102C	GIS Programming	
GIS 4911	Undergraduate Research in Geospatial Trends	
MET 4560	Atmospheric Teleconnections	
GEO 4930	Senior Seminar	1
Related Coursework		
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1	3
Total Credits		39-41

¹ Upper division transfer courses with no UF equivalent will be substituted as GEO 4938.

Transfer coursework is considered on a case-by-case basis.

The same course may not be used to satisfy requirements for more than one bulleted group.

Related Geography Programs

- Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts in Geography (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/)
- Geography minor (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_UMN/)
- Geography minor, UF Online (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_UMN_UFO/)
- 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 progress toward 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

Semester 6

- Complete 1 GIS 3000/4000 technique course
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 7

- Complete 1 additional geography technique course (GEO or GIS 4000 level)
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 8

- Complete all remaining geography (GEO, GIS, or MET) 3000/4000 required courses
- 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.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
Select one:		3
GEO 2420	Introduction to Human Geography (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences with International)	
GEO 2500	Global and Regional Economies (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)	
State Core Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Composition (Writing Requirement)		3
Foreign language		4-5
Credits		13-14
Semester Two		
Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)		3

GEO 2200	Physical Geography (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	3
GEO 2200L	Physical Geography Laboratory (Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	1
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1 (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Mathematics)	3
Foreign language		3-5
Credits		13-15

Semester Three

GEO 2000/3000 Level (Systematic)		3
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Mathematics (pure math)		3
Elective (or foreign language if 4-3-3 option)		3
Credits		15

Semester Four

GEO 3000/4000 Level (Systematic)		3
Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement		3
Gen Ed Biological Sciences ¹		3
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences ¹		3
Elective		3
Credits		15

Semester Five

GEA 3405 or GEA 3600	Geography of Latin America or Geography of Africa	3
GEO 3162C	Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers (Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	4
Electives (3000 level or above, not in major)		9
Credits		16

Semester Six

GEO 3000/4000 Level (Systematic)		3
Select one:		4
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems (Critical Tracking)	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing	
Elective		3
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)		3
Gen Ed Humanities		3
Credits		16

Semester Seven

GEO 4930	Senior Seminar	1
Select one GEO/GIS 4000 level technique course:		3-4
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems (Critical Tracking)	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation (Critical Tracking)	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing (Critical Tracking)	
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)		3
Electives		6
Credits		16-17

Semester Eight

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

¹ One General Education option taken this term must be a Quest 2 course.

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

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3
GEA 2000-4000 level Regional Geography	R		
GEO 2000 level Human Geography	I		
GEO 2200	I		
GEO 2200L	R		
GEO 3162C	I	I	R
GEO 4930	R, A	A	A

GIS 3043 or GIS 4001C	R	R	R
STA 2023			I
B.A. Only Plus 15 additional credits in the department	R	R	R
B.S. Only Plus 12 additional credits in the department and 22 credits outside the department with CHM, GLY, MET, PHY, SWS prefixes	R	R	R

Assessment Types

- Capstone exam
 - Portfolio
-