# Geography, B.A.

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus  
**End Campus:** University Park

## Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>8-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3 credits of GWS courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

### Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 ([https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44](https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44)).

#### Code  Title                                             Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMSC 100S Earth and Mineral Sciences First-Year Seminar 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 210 Geographic Perspectives on Environmental Systems Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 220 Perspectives on Human Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 230 Geographic Perspectives on Environment, Society and Sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 260 Geographic Information in a Changing World: Introduction to GIScience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 301 Thinking Geographically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 390 Professional Development Seminar in Geography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits from the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 493 Service Learning (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 494 Research Project in Geography (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 494H Research Project in Geography (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 495B Geography Teaching Internship (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 495G Geoscience Internship (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 499 Foreign Studies (1-3 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualitative or quantitative methods in geography:  

Select 3 credits from the following:  

- GEOG 308 Research and Qualitative Inquiry in Geography  
- GEOG 364 Spatial Analysis  

### 300-level geography:

Select 9 credits, not including courses taken above:  

- GEOG 308 Research and Qualitative Inquiry in Geography  
- GEOG 310 Introduction to Global Climatic Systems  
- GEOG 314 Biogeography and Global Ecology  
- GEOG 315 Landforms and Geomorphic Systems in the Anthropocene  
- GEOG 320 Urban Geography: A Global Perspective  
- GEOG 324 Place, Space and Culture  
- GEOG 326 Geographic Perspectives on Economic Systems  
- GEOG 328 War, Peace, and Diplomacy: Understanding Contemporary Geopolitics  
- GEOG 330N Political Ecology  
- GEOG 333 Human Dimensions of Natural Hazards  
- GEOG 361 Cartography–Maps and Map Construction  
- GEOG 362 Image Analysis  
- GEOG 363 Geographic Information Systems  
- GEOG 364 Spatial Analysis  
- GEOG 365 Introduction to GIS Programming

### 400-level geography:

Select 12 credits, not including courses taken above:  

- GEOG 410  
- GEOG 411 Forest Geography  
- GEOG 411W Forest Geography  
- GEOG 412  
- GEOG 414 Principles and Applications in Landscape Ecology  
- GEOG 420Y Comparative Urbanism  
- GEOG 421 Population Geography  
- GEOG 422W Globalization, Migration, and Displacement  
- GEOG 424 Geography of the Global Economy  
- GEOG 424W Geography of the Global Economy  
- GEOG 425 Geography of Race, Class, and Poverty in America  
- GEOG 426W Gendered Worlds  
- GEOG 428W Political Geography  
- GEOG 430 Human Use of Environment  
- GEOG 431 Geography of Water Resources  
- GEOG 432 Energy Policy  
- GEOG 433 Geographies of Justice  
- GEOG 434 Politics of the Environment  
- GEOG 436 Ecology, Economy, and Society  
- GEOG 438W Human Dimensions of Global Warming  
- GEOG 439 Property and the Global Environment  
- GEOG 444 Resource Governance in Africa  
- GEOG 461W Dynamic Cartographic Representation  
- GEOG 462 Advanced Observation of Earth and Its Environment  
- GEOG 463 Geospatial Information Management  
- GEOG 464 Advanced Spatial Analysis  
- GEOG 465 Advanced Geographic Information Systems Modeling  
- GEOG 467 Applied Cartographic Design
University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.