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:

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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 world 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).

Code   Title                                      Credits
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
EMSC 100S Earth and Mineral Sciences First-Year Seminar                  3
GEOG 210 Geographic Perspectives on Environmental Systems Science     3
GEOG 220 Perspectives on Human Geography                                3
GEOG 230 Geographic Perspectives on Environment, Society and Sustainability 3
GEOG 260 Geographic Information in a Changing World: Introduction to GIScience 3
GEOG 301 Thinking Geographically                                       3
GEOG 390 Professional Development Seminar in Geography                1

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Engaged Scholarship:
Select 3 credits from the following:                                    3
  GEOG 493 Service Learning (1-3 credits)
  GEOG 494 Research Project in Geography (1-3 credits)
  GEOG 494H Research Project in Geography (1-3 credits)
  GEOG 495B Geography Teaching Internship (1-3 credits)
  GEOG 495G Giscience Internship (1-3 credits)
  GEOG 499 Foreign Studies (1-3 credits)

Qualitative or quantitative methods in geography:
Select 3 credits from the following:                                    3
  GEOG 308 Research and Qualitative Inquiry in Geography
  GEOG 364 Spatial Analysis
  GEOG 365 Introduction to GIS Programming

300-level geography:
Select 9 credits, not including courses taken above:                    9
  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 Remote Sensing and 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:                  12
  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
Exploration

Integrative Studies

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/83-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

World Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one world language in addition to English. This proficiency must be demonstrated by either examination or course work. See the Placement Policy for Penn State World 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, World Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; world language credits in this category must be in a second world language in addition to English or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language). Credits must be selected from the list of approved courses.

World 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 University Cultural Diversity (US/IL) requirement.