

GENERAL GEOGRAPHY | BA

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 socioeconomic 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 (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/>)
- **Degrees:** Bachelor of Arts | Bachelor of Science
- **BA | Specializations:** Environmental Geosciences (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/GPY_BA01/) | General Geography (p. 1) | Geographical Science and Sustainability (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/GPY_BS03/) | Medical Geography in Global Health (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/GPY_BA02/) |
- **BS | Specializations:** General Geography (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/GPY_BS02/) | Medical Geography in Global Health (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/GPY_BA_BS/GPY_BS01/)
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** Email (liangmao@ufl.edu)

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, BA and BS undergraduate degrees, MA, M.S., and PhD degrees, as well as the largest Medical Geography program in the United States.

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

CONTACT

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

Curriculum

- Combination Degrees
- GeoAI and Geographic Analysis Minor
- Geographic Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Certificate
- 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
- Meteorology Minor
- Urban-Economic Geography Certificate

The Bachelor of Arts in General Geography is best suited for students interested in careers in urban and regional planning, business geography, medical geography, and geographic education, or for students who want a broad overview of the discipline with a focus on human geography.

Requirements for the Major

The Bachelor of Arts in General Geography requires 39-45 credits of coursework in geography, plus 3 credits of Statistics.

Students must earn a minimum grade of C in all coursework for the major. A minimum of 18 credits of geography core or elective courses must be UF credit.

Required Major Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
Geography BA Major Core Courses		
GEO 2200 & 2200L	Dynamic Planet Earth and Dynamic Planet Earth Laboratory	4
Select one:		3
GEO 2410	Social Geography	
GEO 2420	People, Place, and Culture	
GEO 2500	Global and Regional Economies	
GEO 3162C	Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	4
Select one GeoAI course:		3
GIS 2002	The Digital Earth	
GIS 2114	The World & Big Data	
Select two Technique courses:		6-8
GEO 4167C	Intermediate Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	
GIS 3001C	Geovisualization and Map Design	
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing	
GIS 4113	Introduction to Spatial Networks	
GIS 4115C	Spatial Surface Modeling and Geostatistics	
GEO 4170	Communicating Science in the Geosciences	3
GEO 4930	Senior Seminar	1
Select one Regional Geography course:		3
GEA 2601	Geography of Africa	
GEA 3405	Geography of Latin America	
GEA 3500	Geography of Europe	
Geography BA Major Systematic electives		
Select four Systematic electives: ¹		12-16
GEO 2242	Extreme Weather	
GEO 2315	Hungry Planet: Global Geographies of Food	
GEO 2426	Pop Music and Culture: a Geographic Perspective	
GEO 3250	Climatology	
GEO 3280	Principles of Geographic Hydrology	
GEO 3341	Extreme Floods	
GEO 3352	The Human Footprint on Landscape	
GEO 3372	Conservation of Resources	
GEO 3427	Plants, Health and Spirituality	
GEO 3430	Population Geography	
GEO 3452	Introduction to Medical Geography	
GEO 3454	Peoples and Plagues	
GEO 3502	Economic Geography	
GEO 3602	Urban and Business Geography	
GEO 3611	Housing, People, and Places in a Spatially Diverse America	
GEO 3803	Geography of Alcohol	
GEO 3930	Special Topics in Geography	
GEO 4034	Weather, Climate, and Society	
GEO 4167C	Intermediate Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	
GEO 4281	River Forms and Processes	
GEO 4285	Water, Risk, and Extreme Events	
GEO 4300	Environmental Biogeography	
GEO 4306C	Geography of Vector-borne Diseases	
GEO 4554	Regional Development	
GEO 4612	Shelter and Care Options for US Elderly	
GEO 4700	Transportation and Urban Accessibility	3
GEO 4938	Selected Topics in Geography	
GEO 4970	Honors Thesis	
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 2002	The Digital Earth	
GIS 3420C	GIS Models for Public Health	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	

GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing
GIS 4102C	GIS Programming
GIS 4113	Introduction to Spatial Networks
GIS 4115C	Spatial Surface Modeling and Geostatistics
GIS 4324	GIS Analysis of Hazard Vulnerability
GLY 4734	Coastal Morphology and Processes
MET 3503	Weather and Forecasting
MET 4224C	Machine Learning in Meteorology
MET 4532	Hurricanes
MET 4560	Atmospheric Teleconnections
MET 4750	Spatial Analysis of Atmospheric Data using GIS

Total Credits**42-48**

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

¹ Other geography courses may be counted at the discretion of the undergraduate coordinator.

Related Related Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1	3

Total Credits**3****Critical Tracking**

For degree requirements outside of the major, refer to CLAS Degree Requirements: Structure of a CLAS Degree (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>).

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.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (<https://cpm.flvc.org/advance-search/>) 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 (GEA 1000 not acceptable)
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4

- Complete 1 additional geography course (1 of the 2 must be GEO 2200; GEA 1000 not acceptable) 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; GEA 1000 not acceptable) with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 6

- Complete a 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, Civic Literacy, summer enrollment, and Quest requirements while in the process of taking the courses below. Students are also expected to complete the General Education International (GE-N) requirements concurrently with another General Education requirement (typically, GE-C, H, or S) as part of the CLAS Basic Distribution requirements. One of the two general education mathematics courses must be a pure math course.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences allows students additional flexibility in its Distribution Requirements. Students may count a maximum of 6 credits TOTAL from the CLAS Distribution course lists towards Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, or Biological and Physical Sciences, with no more than 3 credits of Humanities, 3 credits of Social and Behavioral Sciences, or 6 credits of Biological or Physical Sciences.

The full list of major-specific requirements for this major can be found on the Overview tab. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree requirements can be found on the college's degree requirements page (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>).

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 2410	Social Geography (Critical Tracking)	
GEO 2420	People, Place, and Culture (Critical Tracking)	
GEO 2500	Global and Regional Economies (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)	
State Core Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Composition (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext); Writing Requirement		3
CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement ¹		4-5
	Credits	13-14
Semester Two		
Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)		3
GEO 2200 & 2200L	Dynamic Planet Earth and Dynamic Planet Earth Laboratory (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences; Natural Science Laboratory) ²	4
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1 (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Mathematics)	3
CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement ¹		3-5
	Credits	13-15
Semester Three		
Systematic GEO course (2000/3000 level)		3
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Mathematics (pure math)		3
Elective (or CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement if 4-3-3 language option) ¹		3
	Credits	15
Semester Four		
Quest 2		3
Systematic GEO course (3000/4000 level)		3
Select one GeoAI fundamental course:		3
GIS 2002	The Digital Earth	
GIS 2114	The World & Big Data	

Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement	3
Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Credits	15
Semester Five	
Regional GEA course (2000/3000/4000 level)	3
GEO 3162C Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	4
Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (area not selected in semester 1)	3
Electives (3000 level or above, not in major)	6
Credits	16
Semester Six	
Systematic GEO course (3000/4000 level)	3
GIS 3043 Foundations of Geographic Information Systems (Critical Tracking) or GIS 3001C or Geovisualization and Map Design	4
Gen Ed Biological Science	3
Gen Ed Humanities	3
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)	3
Credits	16
Semester Seven	
GEO 4170 Communicating Science in the Geosciences	3
GEO 4930 Senior Seminar	1
Gen Ed Humanities	3
GEO/GIS technique course (Critical Tracking ; 4000 level)	3-4
Elective (3000 level or above, not in major)	3
Elective (or Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Science, if needed)	3
Credits	16-17
Semester Eight	
Systematic GEO course (Critical Tracking ; 3000/4000 level)	3
Electives (3000 level or above, not in major)	6
Electives	7
Credits	16
Total Credits	120

¹ CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>)

² Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/#degreerequirementstext>)

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

- Analyze geographic information and apply interpretation of data toward problem solving or modeling.

Communication

- 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 and GIS 4001C	R	R	R
STA 2023			I
BA Only Plus 15 additional credits in the department	R	R	R
BS 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
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