

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, 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

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
- 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

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.

Requirements 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 Major Coursework		
<i>Geography BA Core Courses (UF Online)</i>		
GEO 2200 & 2200L	Dynamic Planet Earth and Dynamic Planet Earth Laboratory	4
GEO 2420 or GEO 2500	People, Place, and Culture Global and Regional Economies	3
GEO 3162C	Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers	4
<i>Technique Courses</i>		
Select two:		6-8
GIS 3001C	Geovisualization and Map Design	
GIS 3043	Foundations of Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 4021C	Aerial Photo Interpretation	
GIS 4037	Digital Image Processing	
<i>Regional Geography Course</i>		
Select one:		3
GEA 2601	Geography of Africa	
GEA 3405	Geography of Latin America	
GEA 3500	Geography of Europe	
<i>Geography BA Major Systematic electives UF Online</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	Geovisualization and Map Design	
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		36-38

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.

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 (<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
- 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, 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 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 (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
State Core Gen Ed Composition (Writing Requirement)		3
CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement ¹		4-5
Credits		13-14
Semester Two		
Quest 1		3
GEO 2200	Dynamic Planet Earth (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	3
GEO 2200L	Dynamic Planet Earth Laboratory (Gen Ed Physical Sciences; Natural Science Laboratory) ²	1
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		
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 CLAS Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement if 4-3-3 language option) ¹		3
Credits		15
Semester Four		
Quest 2		3
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
Credits		15
Semester Five		
GEA 3405	Geography of Latin America	3
or GEA 2601	or Geography of Africa	
GEO 3162C	Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Geographers (Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	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		
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	
Gen Ed Humanities		3
Electives (3000 level or above, not in major)		6
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
Elective (or Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences, if needed)		3

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>)

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
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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