

Geography - B.A.

College of
Arts and Sciences

Geography analyzes and explains the location of and interrelationships between human and physical features of the earth's environment. Geographers also examine how and why features and their locations change over time, with particular interest in the many impacts of these changes on both people and natural settings. Geography is, therefore, both a social and a physical science. Because its fundamental subject matter is people and their environments, the discipline serves as an effective bridge between the physical and cultural worlds.

Majors in geography build solid academic foundations that draw from and interrelate areas of study from the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, computer science and graphic communication, and the natural sciences. With developed analytical, critical thinking, and communication skills, geography is particularly useful for students wishing to enter such careers as economic development, environmental management, international trade, transportation analysis and planning, diplomacy, government administration from local to federal levels, market analysis, urban and regional planning, research, teaching, cartography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and private business.

120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree must complete a minimum of 39 hours at the 300+ level. These hours are generally completed by the major requirements. However, keep this hour requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. See the complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree in the *Arts and Sciences* section of the *2015-2016 Undergraduate Bulletin*.

UK Core Requirements

See the *UK Core* section of the *2015-2016 Undergraduate Bulletin* for the complete UK Core requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill UK Core areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the UK Core requirements.

I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity	
Choose one course from approved list	3
II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities	
Choose one course from approved list	3
III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences	
Choose one course from approved list	3
IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences	
Choose one course from approved list	3
V. Composition and Communication I	
CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I	3
VI. Composition and Communication II	
CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II	3
VII. Quantitative Foundations	
Choose one course from approved list	3
VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning	
Choose one course from approved list	3
IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA	
Choose one course from approved list	3

X. Global Dynamics	
Choose one course from approved list	3
UK Core hours	30

Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR)

GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar	3
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Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement hours (GCCR)	3
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College Requirements

I. Foreign Language (<i>placement exam recommended</i>)	0-14
II. Disciplinary Requirements	
a. Natural Science	6
b. Social Science (<i>completed by Major Requirements</i>)	6
c. Humanities	6
III. Laboratory or Field Work	1
IV. Electives	6

College Requirement hours:	19-33
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Major Requirements

Major Core Requirements

GEO 130 Earth's Physical Environment	3
GEO 172 Human Geography	3
GEO 200 Orientation to Geography	3
GEO 406 Field Studies in Geography (Subtitle required)	3
GEO 309 Introduction to GIS	3
GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar	3

Major Core hours:	18
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Methods Requirements

Choose **one** methods course from the following options:

GEO 305 Elements of Cartography	3
GEO 310 Quantitative Techniques in Geography	3
GEO 311 Qualitative Methods in Geography	3
GEO 409 Advanced GIS	3

Methods hours:	3
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Other Course Work Required for the Major

Geography Tracks	18
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Choose at least 18 hours of additional geography courses to include: no more than 3 hours of 100-level courses; no more than 6 hours of GEO 560 and GEO 399; a minimum of 3 hours of 400+ level courses (not including GEO 409, 406, or 499). The following focus areas represent specializations within Geography and are provided as guidelines. Most students will find it useful to concentrate their 18 hours within these focus areas, but this is not a requirement. On completion of 15 hours within any focus area, the Geography Department will award a certificate of completion of studies in the area of specialization. Consult with your advisor in making selections of courses.

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Geography (B.A.) • 2

GEOGRAPHY TRACKS

Environmental Geography Option

Suggested Courses:

GEO 135 Global Climate Change	3
GEO 162 Introduction to Global Environmental Issues	3
GEO 231 Environment and Development	3
GEO 235 Environmental Management and Policy	3
GEO 261 Global Dynamics of Health and Disease	3
GEO 321 Land, People, and Development in Appalachia	3
GEO 331 Global Environmental Change	3
GEO 334 Environment, Society and Economy of Japan	3
GEO 431 Political Ecology	3
GEO 530 Biogeography and Conservation	3
GEO 531 Landscape Ecology	3

Physical Geography Option

Suggested Courses:

GEO 135 Global Climate Change	3
GEO 130 Earth's Physical Environment	3
GEO 230 Weather and Climate	3
GEO 235 Environmental Management and Policy	3
GEO 351 Physical Landscapes	3
GEO 451G Fluvial Forms and Processes	3
GEO 530 Biogeography and Conservation	3
GEO 531 Landscape Ecology	3

Urban Geography and Planning Option

Suggested Courses:

GEO 220 U.S. Cities	3
GEO 285 Introduction to Planning	3
GEO 485G Urban Planning and Sustainability	3
GEO 235 Environmental Management and Policy	3
GEO 309 Introduction to GIS	3
GEO 310 Quantitative Techniques in Geography	3
GEO 415 Map Interpretation	3
GEO 422 Urban Geography	3
GEO 455 Globalization and the Changing World Economy	3
GEO 490G American Landscapes	3
GEO 544 Human Population Dynamics	3
GEO 545 Transportation Geography	3

GIS Focus

Suggested Courses:

GEO 109 Digital Mapping	3
GEO 164 iWorlds: Global Information Geographies	3
GEO 409 Advanced GIS	3
GEO 509 Workshop in Geospatial Technologies	3
GEO 419 Introduction to Remote Sensing	3
GEO 305 Elements of Cartography	3
GEO 506 Introduction to Computer Cartography	3
GEO 505 Practicum in Cartography	3
GEO 310 Quantitative Techniques in Geography	3
GEO 415 Map Interpretation	3
GEO 365 Special Topics in Geography (Subtitle required)	3

Human Geography Option

Suggested Courses:

GEO 161 Global Inequalities	3
GEO 240 Geography and Gender	3
GEO 260 Geographies of Development in the Global South	3
GEO 422 Urban Geography	3
GEO 442G Political Geography	3
GEO 455 Globalization and the Changing World Economy	3
GEO 475G Medical Geography	3
GEO 490G American Landscapes	3
GEO 544 Human Population Dynamics	3
GEO 545 Transportation Geography	3
GEO 546 Tourism and Recreation Geography	3

International Studies Option

Suggested Courses:

GEO 163 Global Conflicts	3
GEO 221 Immigrant America: A Geographic Perspective	3
GEO 222 Cities of the World	3
GEO 255 Geography of the Global Economy	3
GEO 326 Geography of Europe	3
GEO 328 Geography of the Middle East and North Africa	3
GEO 329 Geography of the Former Soviet Union	3
GEO 331 Global Environmental Change	3
GEO 334 Environment, Society and Economy of Japan	3
GEO 546 Tourism and Recreation Geography	3

Design Your Own Geography Major Option

Any Geography courses fulfilling the requirements for the major.

Major hours: 39

Electives

Choose electives to lead to the minimum total of 120 hours required for graduation 4

**Total Minimum hours
Required for Degree** 120

Geography - B.S.

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120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree must complete a minimum of 60 hours in natural, physical, mathematical, and computer science. Please note: courses with a GEO prefix are generally not accepted towards fulfilling this 60-hour requirement. Therefore, be sure to keep this requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. A complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, including a specific listing of courses applicable to the 60-hour requirement, can be found in the *Arts and Sciences* section of the 2015-2016 *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

UK Core Requirements

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X. Global Dynamics

Choose one course from approved list 3
UK Core hours **30**

Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR)

GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar 3

Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement hours (GCCR)

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College Requirements

I. Foreign Language (*placement exam recommended*) 0-14

II. Disciplinary Requirements

a. Natural Science 6

b. Social Science (*completed by Major Requirements*) 6

c. Humanities 6

III. Laboratory or Field Work 1

IV. Electives 6

College Requirement hours: **19-33**

Major Requirements

Major Core Requirements

GEO 130 Earth's Physical Environment 3

GEO 172 Human Geography 3

GEO 200 Orientation to Geography 3

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GEO 309 Introduction to GIS 3

GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar 3

Major Core hours: **18**

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Choose **one** methods course from the following options:

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GEO 311 Qualitative Methods in Geography 3

GEO 409 Advanced GIS 3

Methods hours: **3**

Other Course Work Required for the Major

Geography Tracks **18**

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University of Kentucky is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500, or online at www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation of University of Kentucky.

Geography (B.S.) • 2

GEOGRAPHY TRACKS

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**Total Minimum hours
Required for Degree** 120