GEOGRAPHY, B.A.

Students may elect a general geography major or they may complete additional courses for a concentration in Urban Planning, Earth Science, or Geographic Information Science. Students may also complete a major in Geography with Social Studies High School Teaching Licensure.

Student Learning Goals

Students completing this major are expected to demonstrate a basic competence in earth science, human geography, and regional geography. In addition, they are expected to be able to successfully investigate geographic problems using the current research techniques and methodologies of the discipline and to clearly and effectively express their findings in both written and oral form.

Overall Requirements

- 120 credit hours, to include at least 36 credits at or above the 300 course level
- A minimum of 27 credits in geography above the 100 level. Only grades of C- or higher will count toward completion of the major and concentrations.
- No more than 6 credit hours from GES courses numbered 160-170 and 360-400 may be applied to the major.

Degree Program Requirements

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University Requirements (https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/undergraduate-policies/)

General Education Requirements (MAC) (https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/undergraduate-policies/general-education-program/#generaleducationcorerequirements)

College of Arts and Sciences Additional Requirements (CIC) (https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/#additionalundergraduaterequirements)

Major Requirements

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Geographic Techniques

Select one of the following:

- GES 121 Introduction to Geographic Information Science
- GES 322 Research Methods in Spatial Science
- GES 357 Principles of Cartography
- GES 358 Geographic Information Systems
- GES 359 Remote Sensing of Environment

Earth Science

Select one option of the following:

Option A:
- GES 103 Introduction to Earth Science

Option B:
- GES 103 Introduction to Earth Science & 103L

Human Geography

Select one of the following:

- GES 105 Introduction to Human Geography
- GES 301 Cities of the World
- GES 302 Urban Geography: Sustainable Land Use
- GES 303 World Population Problems
- GES 304 Sustainable Transport and Mobility
- GES 306 World Economic Geography
- GES 315 The Geography of World Affairs

Regional Geography

Select one of the following:

- GES 102 The Historical Geography of the Western World
- GES 104 World Regional Geography
- GES 313 Natural Resource Regions of North America
- GES 333 Geography of Europe
- GES 340 Geography of East Asia
- GES 344 Geography of the United States and Canada
- GES 491 Seminar in Regional Geography

Optional Concentrations

Any of the optional concentrations as detailed following the major requirements may be added, but a concentration is not required.

- Earth Science
- Geographic Information Science
- Urban Planning

Electives

Electives sufficient to complete the 120 credit hours required for degree.

Earth Science Concentration Requirements

A central theme of geography is human interaction with the earth’s physical environment. This concentration permits students to apply the basic scientific principles of physical geography, cartography, and natural resource analysis to the problem of ensuring a high quality of life through maintenance of the natural processes that support human existence. This concentration also provides training to enhance the employment opportunities of students with a strong interest in environmental assessment and resource evaluation.

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Additional Concentration Requirements

Required

- GES 319 Weather and Climate
- GES 319L Climatology Laboratory
- GES 314 Physical Geography: Landscape Processes
- GES 314L Physical Geography Laboratory

Select a minimum of five courses of the following:

- GES 205 Environmental Change: Its Nature and Impact
- GES 305 Environmental Hazards Assessment
- GES 312 Geomorphology of North America
- GES 330 Elements of Hydrology
- GES 357 Principles of Cartography
- GES 358 Geographic Information Systems
- GES 359 Remote Sensing of Environment
GES 418  Biogeography
GES 419  Advanced Weather and Climate-Synoptic Climatology
GES 457  Advanced Cartography
GES 459  Advanced Remote Sensing-Imaging
GES 450  Applied Physical Geography

† Counts toward GEC GNS requirement.

Geographic Information Science Concentration Requirements

Students with this concentration will develop skills in using maps, geospatial computer programs, and remotely sensed images to answer geographic questions relevant to land use planning, urban development, geomorphic or biogeographic processes, or environmental impact assessment. A capstone course (GES 421), which includes a faculty-directed major project, is completed in the final semester.

Code    Title                      Credit Hours
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Required 15

GES 121 & 121L  Introduction to Geographic Information Science and Intro to Geographic Information Science Laboratory
GES 357  Principles of Cartography
GES 358  Geographic Information Systems
GES 359  Remote Sensing of Environment
Select at least one of the following:
GES 457  Advanced Cartography
GES 459  Advanced Remote Sensing-Imaging
GES 421  Geographic Information Science *

* Taken after the completion of the other Additional Concentration Requirements.

Urban Planning Concentration Requirements

The inter-regional shift of people and jobs in the United States and elsewhere over the past decades coupled with the movement away from large central cities has increased the need for formal urban and regional planning. Planners are needed in the private sector as well as in state and local governments to provide the appropriate kinds of economic and community development that will ensure a high quality of life in both developed and developing countries. In a growth region like the Southeast, geographers with a planning background are in increasing demand.

Code    Title                      Credit Hours
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Required 24

GES 105  Introduction to Human Geography
GES 301  Cities of the World
GES 306  World Economic Geography
Select five of the following:
GES 302  Urban Geography: Sustainable Land Use
GES 303  World Population Problems

GES 304  Sustainable Transport and Mobility
GES 320  Tourism Planning and Development
GES 322  Research Methods in Spatial Science
GES 331  Sustainable Tourism and Transportation
GES 344  Geography of the United States and Canada
GES 357  Principles of Cartography
GES 402  Sustainable Urban Planning in an Entrepreneurial Environment
GES 432  Geography of Livable Cities
GES 433  Regional Economic Development

† Counts toward GEC GNS requirement.

Geography as a Second Major

• Minimum of 27 credit hours

A student may obtain a second major in geography along with any other major. The student should take 27 credits, including four core courses listed above for the Geography Major. Students considering this option should consult a faculty member in the department.

Disciplinary Honors in Geography Requirements

• A minimum of 12 credit hours as defined below.
  • UNC Greensboro cumulative GPA of 3.30 or better or, for transfer students, cumulative GPA of 3.30 or better from all prior institutions.

Code    Title                      Credit Hours
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Required 3-6

HSS 490  Senior Honors Project
or GES 493  Honors Work

6 credits of Honors course work in the major 6
3 credits of Honors course work in the major or another area 3

Recognition

Receive a Certificate of Disciplinary Honors in Geography; have that accomplishment, along with the title of the Senior Honors Project, noted on the official transcript; and be recognized at a banquet held at the end of the spring semester.

Honors Advisor

Contact Jay Lennartson at gjlennar@uncg.edu for further information and guidance about Honors Geography. To apply: http://honorscollege.uncg.edu/forms/disc-application.pdf

Accelerated B.A. to M.A. in Applied Geography

Application and Admission

Qualified UNC Greensboro undergraduate students who are pursuing the B.A. in Geography may apply for admission to the Accelerated Master’s Program (AMP). A cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.5 based on at least 30 credits earned at UNC Greensboro is required. Applicants must have completed at least 60 credits and may not apply for admission to the AMP before the first semester of the junior year. Applicants will not be required to take the GRE. All applicants must complete the Accelerated
Master’s Program information along with their application for admission to the graduate degree program.

Courses
Admitted students may apply a maximum of 12 credits of graduate-level course work from the following course list toward completion of both the undergraduate and graduate degree, provided they earn a grade of B (3.0) or better in each course and fulfill graduate-level requirements:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GES 602</td>
<td>Sustainable Urban Planning in an Entrepreneurial Environment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 604</td>
<td>Political Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GES 618</td>
<td>Biogeography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GES 619</td>
<td>Advanced Weather and Climate-Synoptic Climatology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GES 632</td>
<td>Geography of Livable Cities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 650</td>
<td>Applied Physical Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 651</td>
<td>Seminar in Regional Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 657</td>
<td>Advanced Cartography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GES 659</td>
<td>Advanced Remote Sensing-Imaging</td>
<td>3</td>
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Please consult with an advisor to determine how the courses taken at the graduate level will meet requirements in the bachelor’s degree program. All degree requirements for the B.A. and M.A. degree in Geography remain the same.