GEOGRAPHY

Geography is the study of human spatial behavior and the location of human activities, and their reciprocal relationship with the physical environment. Geographic fields of study include social geography, historical geography, economic geography, political geography, resource conservation and geographic information systems.

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Professional geographers work in three primary areas—teaching, public sector planning and private location analysis. Attempts by the National Geographic Society and the Association of American Geographers to mitigate geographic literacy have led to a rejuvenation of primary and secondary geography training and teaching across the country. Planners work at the local, state and federal level. Private firms such as economic development foundations, real estate firms, banks and franchised businesses frequently hire geographers to carry out facility location studies. Jobs are available in all of these areas to geographers with the B.A. degree; however, the better, career-path positions go to students who proceed to obtain a master’s or doctoral degree.

Requirements

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography, including the core curriculum requirements, is 120. Thirty-nine of the total semester credit hours required for the degree must be at the upper-division level. At least 33 semester credit hours of geography coursework are required to fulfill the geography major. The 33-hour total is considered a minimum, and students are encouraged to deepen and broaden their grasp of their major through careful allocation of their elective semester credit hours. Students are required to complete at least 6 semester credit hours of support work. These courses, which require advance approval from advisers, should serve to introduce students to other social sciences in addition to those entailed in the coursework within students’ major discipline.

All candidates for this degree must fulfill the core curriculum requirements and the degree requirements, which are listed below.

A. 34 semester credit hours in the major, 24 of which must be at the upper-division level

1. 19 semester credit hours

   13 required semester credit hours
   - GRG 2613 Physical Geography
   - GRG 2623 Human Geography
   - GRG 3314 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
   - GRG 3323 Spatial Analysis

   6 additional semester credit hours selected from the following:
   - GRG 3113 Geography of the United States and Canada
   - GRG 3123 Geography of Latin America

2. 15 additional semester credit hours of geography electives chosen in consultation with the student’s adviser. A maximum of 6 of these hours, as approved by the student’s adviser, may be applied to the major from selected courses in the following three areas: urban and economic studies, international studies, earth science and resources

B. 6 semester credit hours of courses in the social sciences outside the major, chosen with the consent of the adviser

C. 6 semester credit hours of a single language other than English

D. 32 semester credit hours of electives

Minor in Geography

All students pursuing the minor in geography must complete 18 semester credit hours.

A. 6 semester credit hours of courses in core concepts and regions

   - GRG 1013 Fundamentals of Geography
   - GRG 1023 World Regional Geography

B. 3 semester credit hours of upper-division regional geography selected from the following:

   - GRG 3113 Geography of the United States and Canada
   - GRG 3123 Geography of Latin America
   - GRG 3133 Geography of Europe
   - GRG 3143 Geography of Mexico
   - GRG 3153 Geography of Texas

C. 9 semester credit hours of upper-division electives in geography

To declare a minor in geography, obtain advice, or seek approval of substitutions for course requirements, students should consult the College of Liberal and Fine Arts Advising Center.

Information gathered from the 2006–2008 undergraduate catalog.

http://www.utsa.edu/ucat/chapter5/