Degree Program Description

Geographers are interested in a wide range of topics and often work in interdisciplinary teams that analyze challenges like environmental change, resource use, and economic issues in an increasingly interdependent world. Physical and environmental geography emphasizes the complex interactions between the natural world and human behavior. Students learn to identify, delineate and manage a range of environmental problems facing society from climate and vegetation change to river management. Geography prepares students for a variety of professions including careers in environmental impact assessment, mapping, remote sensing, geographic information analysis, government service, military intelligence, as well as education. Geographers are interested in a wide range of topics and often work in interdisciplinary teams that analyze challenges like environmental change, resource use, and economic issues in an increasingly interdependent world. Geography majors receive marketable skills during their undergraduate experience. Recent graduates work for companies such as ESRI and Garmin. MU geography graduates have also found employment with government agencies, including the National Park Service, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and Missouri Department of Transportation.

Major Program Requirements

Physical and environmental geography emphasizes the complex interactions between the natural world and human behavior. Students learn to identify, delineate, and manage a range of environmental problems facing society from climate and vegetation change to river management. Students are required to take three courses (normally nine hours) in the emphasis. Two additional courses (six additional hours) are selected from a secondary emphasis area.

In addition, students must complete all College of Arts and Science and University graduation requirements (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/), including University general education (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/).

Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student’s actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.