

BA in Geography with Emphasis in Physical/Environmental

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/>).

GEOG 3600	Climates of the World	3
GEOG 3610	Physical Geography of the United States	3
GEOG 3630	Earth Surface Systems	3
GEOG 4620	Biogeography: Global Patterns of Life	3
GEOG 4810	Landscape Ecology and GIS Analysis I	3

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.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
ENGLISH 1000*		3 MATH 1100*	3
GEOG 1100*		4 GEOG 2610	3
GEOG 1100		3 Second language II ¹	4-6
Second language I ¹		4-6 Elective/minor course	3
			14-16
			13-15

Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Second language III*		3 Behavioral Science Course*	3
Social Science Course (MO State Law)		3 Behavioral Science Course*	3
Elective/Minor Course		3 Writing Intensive Course*	3
3000+ level Geog emphasis course		3 GEOG 3840 or 3040	3
GEOG 1550		3 GEOG 1800	3
			15
			15

Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Biological/Physical Science Course ¹		3 Humanities/Fine Arts Course*	3
3000+ level Geog emphasis course		3 3000+ level Geog emphasis course	3
3000+ level Geog emphasis course		3 Social Science Course (2000+)*	3
Social Science Course*		3 Humanities/Fine Arts Course (2000+)*	3
		Biological/Physical Science Course with Lab	3-5
		Elective/Minor Course (3000+)	
			12
			15-17

Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Humanities/Fine Arts Course*		3 GEOG 4990	3
STAT 1200 or 1300		3 (3000+ level Geog emphasis course) ¹	3
3000+ level Geog emphasis course		3 Elective/Minor Course	3
Elective/Minor Course (3000+)		3 Humanities/Fine Arts Course (2000+)*	3
Elective/Minor Course		3 Elective/Minor Course (3000+)	3
			15
			15

Total Credits: 114-120

Requires 120 credits for graduation.

* Denotes General Education and A&S Foundation Requirements

¹ Denotes Degree Program Requirements