Major Requirements
Department of Geography

Requirements

To earn a bachelor of arts in geography, students must complete 10 geography courses with a minimum grade of C-minus — five core courses, four courses in one of three areas of concentration, plus one elective. Students must select an area of concentration within six months of declaring geography as their major.

Core courses

All geography majors must complete five core courses:

- GEOG 401, Regional Geography of the Western World
- GEOG 402, Regional Geography of the Non-Western World
- GEOG 572, Geography of the Natural Environment
- GEOG 581, Human Geography
- GEOG 658, Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

The core courses are intended to provide students a basic understanding of human, physical, and world regional geography, plus geographic information systems. They should be taken as early as possible in a student’s program because they provide a foundation for more advanced coursework.

Students are encouraged to complete GEOG 595, Statistics for Geographers, or another statistics course approved by their advisor, before enrolling in GEOG 658.

Concentrations

Human geography: Intended for students most interested in the geography of human activity, including population, urban, cultural, political, and economic geography.

Students must complete three of the following, including one course at the 600-level or above:

- GEOG 515, The American City
- GEOG 582, Economic Geography (WI)
- GEOG 584, Political Geography (WI)
- GEOG 588, Geography of Food
- GEOG 610, The Peopling of New England
- GEOG 673, Political Ecology
- GEOG 680, Historical Geography (WI)
- GEOG 685, Geography of Population and Development (WI)
- GEOG 690, Geography of Third World Development

Students must complete one of the following regional geography courses:

- GEOG 510, Geography of New England
- GEOG 514, Geography of the United States and Canada
- GEOG 520, Geography of Latin America and the Caribbean
- GEOG 530, Geography of China (WI)
GEOG 540, Geography of the Middle East
GEOG 550, Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa

Environmental geography: Intended for students most interested in the geography of
the natural environment, including weather, climate, landforms, biogeography, and
human-environment interactions.

Students must complete three of the following, including one course at the 600-level
or above:

GEOG 473, Elements of Weather
GEOG 560, Geography of Natural Hazards and Disasters
GEOG 573, Biogeography
GEOG 574, Geography of Landforms
GEOG 670, Climate and Society (WI)
GEOG 671, Weather Forecasting
GEOG 673, Political Ecology

Students must complete GEOG 595, Statistics for Geographers, or another statistics
course approved by their advisor. If approved statistics course also satisfies Discovery
requirement, student must take a fourth course from the above list.

Geotechniques: Intended for students most interested in geographic information
systems, aerial photo interpretation, remote sensing, photogrammetry, and other
geographic techniques.

Students must complete three of the following:

GEOG 650, Field Methods in Geography
GEOG 757, Remote Sensing of the Environment
GEOG 759, Digital Image Processing for Natural Resources
GEOG 760, Geographic Information Systems in Natural Resources

Students must complete GEOG 595, Statistics for Geographers, or another statistics
course approved by their advisor. If approved statistics course also satisfies Discovery
requirement, student must take a fourth course from the above list.

Additional regulations

Students entering UNH beginning in August 2010 must pass a comprehensive
examination in their senior year to fulfill the Discovery capstone requirement.

The university’s foreign language requirement can be fulfilled by the following
languages: French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Russian, Chinese,
Japanese, Arabic, Latin, or Greek. Other languages will be considered by petition.

No course may fulfill both a major requirement and a General Education or Discovery
requirement, except when geography is a student’s second major.

Updated 10-Sep-13