

SAMPLE Four-Year Plan
B.A. Geography - Environment and Society
FALL 2023 Requirements

The curriculum in the geography major is somewhat flexible in that there are some required sequences and it allows students to move through other coursework in many ways. This four-year plan illustrates one possible path a new freshman could take to complete a degree in four years. This is not an official document and is not the only way that a geography degree can be completed in four years. Current students should refer to their individual Academic Advising Report for specific graduation requirements. Courses in bold indicate major-based coursework that is completed in the first year.

First Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3	English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
Math 139 Quantitative Reasoning	3	Geography 210 Physical Geo OR 120 Climate Systems	4
Geography 100 Introduction to Geography	1	Gened CORE 140 Global Perspectives	3
Geography 230 Human Geo OR 252 Global Env. Chall	3	General Education Elective	3
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3	PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1		
Total Credits	14	Total Credits	14

Notes: The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on placement exam scores. This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encouraged to submit test scores prior to attending Warhawks SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration).

Opportunities: Joining a university-sponsored club and actively participating is strongly encouraged. Involvement in a club or activity will help you develop interpersonal skills, give you the opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills, and adds to your resume. Some clubs that may be of particular interest to students with a geography major include the Whitewater Geography Association, WeatherHawks, and Students Allied for a Green Earth (SAGE).

Second Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Geography 270 GIS 1: Mapping Our World	3	Geography 361, 362, 364 or 365 (regional courses)	3
Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3	Advanced Physical Geography course	3
U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity Course	3	Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3
BA World Language course	4	BA World Language course	4
General Education Elective	3	Minor course	3
Total Credits	16	Total Credits	15

Notes: Regional courses include: Geography 361 Geography of South and Southeast Asia, 362 Geography of Europe, 364 Geography of East Asia, and 365 Geography of Latin America. Advanced physical geography courses include: Geography 300 Soil Science, 310 Geomorphology (Land-forms), 320 Weather Analysis, 323 Water Resources, 330 Biogeography, 352 Geohazards, 420 Climate Change: The Science and Impacts, 423 Rivers and Floods, and Geology 301 Environmental Geology.

Opportunities: Students are encouraged to start thinking about selecting a minor in the second year. The most common minors selected by geography majors are Environmental Studies and Geographic Information Systems. Undergraduate research is highly recommended for students who have an interest in attending graduate school in the future. Completing a directed research project with a faculty mentor has many benefits: it develops a student's critical thinking and writing abilities, signals to graduate school programs that a student is prepared for independent research of their own, and it can provide a student with financial support since many undergraduate research opportunities are paid. Completing a research project for credit (Geography 498R) can also count as an elective in the geography major.



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

College of Letters
and Sciences

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www.edu/cls/departments/geography-geology-env-sci

Third Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Advanced Cultural/Human Geography course	3	Advanced Geographic Techniques course	3
Geography elective	3	Geography elective	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3	Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15

Notes: Advanced cultural/human geography courses include: Geography 332 Political Geography, 334 Historical Geography, 335 Geography of Population and Migration, 340 Economic Geography, 344 Urban Geography, 354 Natural Hazard Mitigation, 444 Cities and Sustainability, 452 Sustainable Development and Human-Environment Geography, 455 Topics in Human Geography.

Advanced Geographic Techniques courses include: Geography 340 GIS II: Applications and Data, 377 Remote Sensing of the Environment, 380 Cartography and Geovisualization, 390 Spatial Solutions: Geographic Data Analysis, 440 Applied GIS for Social and Business Research, 460 GIS in Water Resources, 470 Applied Environmental and Natural Resource GIS, and 477 Advanced Geographic Information Systems.

Opportunities: An internship is not required for the geography major but can be a great opportunity for practical experience. An internship is an opportunity that provides students with hands-on experience in a potential career field, supervision and coaching from prospective employers, and the ability to learn professional norms and behaviors. In addition, completing an internship allows students to differentiate themselves in a competitive job market. Students should begin planning for an internship by the beginning of the junior year and can complete the internship in the junior or senior year.

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
400-level Geography elective	3	Geography 400 Capstone in Geography	1
English 370 OR PWP 371 OR PWP 372	3	Minor course	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3	Electives to total 120 (if needed)	11-12
Minor course	3		
Minor course	3		
Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15-16

Notes: All students must earn 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree and all requirements in this program can be completed in fewer than 120 credits. Most students have the opportunity to choose additional courses in the fourth year to expand skills, explore interests, or try something new.

Opportunities: LSINDP 399: Career Information in Letters and Sciences is a 1-credit course that focuses on career and graduate school opportunities; identifying skills, strengths, and work values; creating effective job search materials; developing a networking strategy; and planning for a successful post-graduation transition.

Planning for Graduation: Students are encouraged to apply for graduation one full semester prior to their intended graduation date. Information about commencement is on the Registrar's Office website (<http://www.uww.edu/registrar/graduation>) and the application for graduation is available to students in the WINS Student Information System.

Curriculum effective date: Fall 2023



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