

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/03/21 10:41 am

Viewing: **SC-BS-GEOG : Geography, BS**

Last approved: 02/10/20 12:13 pm

Last edit: 12/05/21 10:10 am

Changes proposed by: tleslie

Catalog Pages Using this Program
[Geography, BS](#)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Catalog: 2022-2023

Program Level: Undergraduate

Program Type: Bachelor's

Degree Type: Bachelor of Science

Title:
Geography, BS

Banner Title: Geography, BS

Is this a retitling of

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Status Approved

Registrar’s Office Use Only – Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SACSCOC Status

In Workflow

1. **GGS Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Associate Dean
4. SC CAT Editor
5. Assoc Provost- Undergraduate
6. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 11/04/21 12:13 pm
Nathan Burtch (nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair
2. 11/12/21 3:03 pm
Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz): Rollback to GGS Chair for SC Curriculum Committee
3. 12/05/21 10:10 am
Nathan Burtch (nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. Nov 1, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Jan 11, 2018 by rzachari
3. Feb 26, 2018 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)

Concentration(s):

**Registrar/IRR Use
Only –
Concentration CIP
Code**

College/School: College of Science

**Department /
Academic Unit:** Geography & Geoinformation Science

**Jointly Owned
Program?** No

Justification

This proposed change combines several departmental efforts that appear to be a lot of ink but are each relatively direct.

- GGS 366 is an evolved version of GGS 210; we have now removed 210 and wish to require 366 for this program
- Add in GGS 122 as option for physical geography courses 102 or 121
- Remove secondary calculus, programming, or statistics requirement, and shift focus instead to an additional spatial computing course (up to 4 from 3)
- Remove colloquium requirement
- Allow CDS 130 to be used as an alternative for GGS 366 requirement, and if so allow students to use 366 as spatial computing course
- Clean up deleted and added courses from other parts of the curriculum
- The addition of the honors program; we believe this opportunity should be extended to current students without the burden of catalog year updates.

4. Mar 8, 2018 by rzachari
5. Feb 3, 2019 by Dieter Pfoser (dpfoser)
6. Feb 10, 2020 by Nathan Burtch (nburtch)

**Total Credits
Required:** Total credits: minimum 120

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:
SC-BS-GEOG

**Registrar/IRR Use
Only – Program CIP
Code**

**Admission
Requirements:**

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the [Undergraduate Admissions Policies](#) section of this catalog. To apply for this program, please complete the [George Mason University Admissions Application](#).

**Program-Specific
Policies:**

Policies

Students must fulfill all [Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees](#) including the [Mason Core](#).
[GGG 415](#) Seminar in Geographic Thought and Methodology fulfills the writing intensive requirement.
 For policies governing all undergraduate programs, see [AP.5 Undergraduate Policies](#).

Degree Requirements:

Students should refer to the [Admissions & Policies](#) tab for specific policies related to this program.

Geography

Candidates for the Geography, BS degree must complete the following Core, Breadth and Experience, and **Spatial Computing Geography Elective** courses with a minimum GPA of 2.00:

Core Courses

GGG 102	Physical Geography (Mason Core)	3-4
or GGG 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core)	
or GGG 122	Dynamic Geosphere and Ecosphere	
GGG 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	3
GGG 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies	3
GGG 300	Quantitative Methods for Geographical Analysis	3
GGG 310	Cartographic Design	3
GGG 311	Geographic Information Systems	3
GGG 379	Remote Sensing	3
GGG 400	Colloquium in Geoinformation Science	1
GGG 415	Seminar in Geographic Thought and Methodology 1	3
Total Credits		21-22

1 Fulfills the writing intensive requirement.

Breadth and Experience Courses

Advanced Technique Courses

Select three from the following:

9

GGG 308	Field Mapping Techniques
GGG 354	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques
GGG 410	Course GGS 410 Not Found
GGG 411	Geovisualization
GGG 412	Air Photography Interpretation
GGG 416	Satellite Image Analysis
GGG 422	Drone Remote Sensing
GGG 462	Web-based Geographic Information Systems
GGG 463	RS: GIS Analysis and Application

GGS 470 Special Topics in Geographic Techniques

Systematic Courses

Select one from the following:

3

<u>GGS 301</u>	Political Geography (<u>Mason Core</u>)
<u>GGS 302</u>	Global Environmental Hazards
<u>GGS 303</u>	Geography of Resource Conservation (<u>Mason Core</u>)
<u>GGS 304</u>	Population Geography (<u>Mason Core</u>)
<u>GGS 305</u>	Economic Geography
<u>GGS 306</u>	Urban Geography
<u>GGS 307</u>	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development
<u>GGS 309</u>	Introduction to Weather and Climate
<u>GGS 312</u>	Physical Climatology
<u>GGS 314</u>	Severe and Extreme Weather
<u>GGS 319</u>	Air Pollution
<u>GGS 321</u>	Biogeography
GGS 322	Course GGS 322 Not Found
<u>GGS 340</u>	Health Geography
<u>GGS 344</u>	Military Geography
<u>GGS 357</u>	Urban Planning
GGS 398	Course GGS 398 Not Found
<u>GGS 399</u>	<u>Select Topics in GGS</u>
<u>GGS 456</u>	<u>Introduction to Atmospheric Radiation</u>

Regional Courses

Select one from the following:

3

<u>GGS 315</u>	Geography of the United States
<u>GGS 316</u>	Geography of Latin America
<u>GGS 317</u>	Geography of China (<u>Mason Core</u>)
<u>GGS 320</u>	Geography of Europe
<u>GGS 325</u>	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
<u>GGS 326</u>	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGS 330	Course GGS 330 Not Found
<u>GGS 333</u>	Issues in Regional Geography
<u>GGS 380</u>	Geography of Virginia

Electives**9****Select 3 credits of GGS courses****Select 6 credits of upper division GGS courses**

Total Credits

15

Spatial Computing

<u>EDS 130</u>	<u>Computing for Scientists</u>	3
<u>GGS 366</u>	Spatial Computing	3
or <u>CDS 130</u>	Computing for Scientists	

<u>MATH 113</u>	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (<u>Mason Core</u>)	4
MATH 114	Analytic Geometry and Calculus II	3-4
or IT 207	Applied IT Programming	
or STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	
<u>GGG 379</u>	Remote Sensing	3
Select four courses from the following:		12
<u>GGG 308</u>	Field Mapping Techniques	
<u>GGG 354</u>	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques	
<u>GGG 366</u>	Spatial Computing 2 - only if unused above	
<u>GGG 411</u>	Geovisualization	
<u>GGG 412</u>	Air Photography Interpretation	
<u>GGG 416</u>	Satellite Image Analysis	
<u>GGG 422</u>	Drone Remote Sensing	
<u>GGG 426</u>	Physical Fundamentals of Remote Sensing	
<u>GGG 429</u>	Remote Sensing of the Environment and Earth System	
<u>GGG 462</u>	Web-based Geographic Information Systems	
<u>GGG 463</u>	RS: GIS Analysis and Application	
<u>GGG 470</u>	Special Topics in Geographic Techniques	

Total Credits 22

~~Core Courses Breadth and Experience Courses - Geography Electives~~

~~Select 3 credits of undergraduate-level GGS courses 3~~

~~Select 6 credits of 300 or 400-level GGS courses 6~~

~~Total Credits 0~~

~~Outside Requirements Candidates for the Geography, BS degree must complete the following courses from outside of Geography and Geoinformation Science:~~

Retroactive
Requirements
Updates:

Effective Catalog years: 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2021-2022

Previous requirement: No honors program available.

New requirement: Adding the honors program.

Plan of Study:

Honors
Information:

Honors in the Major

To graduate with departmental honors in Geography, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in GGS courses, an overall GPA of 3.50, and complete the following courses each with a grade of 'B+' or above:

<u>GGG 463</u>	RS: GIS Analysis and Application	3
<u>GGG 499</u>	GGG Independent Study 1	3

3 credits of 500-699 level GGS courses 2**3**

1 Before registering for this course, students must have identified a topic under the guidance of a full-time faculty member following departmental guidelines.

2 Eligibility for these courses is restricted to students who obtain permission from the undergraduate coordinator or those in the Accelerated Master's program.

Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:
INTO-Mason
Requirements:

College
Requirements &
Policies:

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:
Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

**Courses offered via
distance (if
applicable):**

Indicate whether

What is the primary delivery format for the program?
Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

No

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

No

**Related
Departments**

Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in Virginia or elsewhere?

No

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Are you changing the total number of credits required for this program?

No

Are you changing the delivery format in any way (e.g adding an online option)?

No

Are you adding/removing a licensure option which was approved by SCHEV?

No

Will any portion of this program be offered at an off-campus location?

No

*What off campus location(s)
What percentage of credits t*

Will this program change affect any specialized accreditation?

No

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program?

No

Which existing approved

Is this new program considered to be "advancing the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at lower degree level, new content is at the higher degree level)?

No

Which existing approved

Is this new program considered to be "lowering the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at higher degree level, new content is at the lower degree level)?

No

Which existing approved

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program?

No

Percentage of total credits containing new course content, excluding gen ed courses for undergraduate program: ("New content" means content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program.) Please choose a percentage (i.e. 0%-100%)

less than 25%

Are the total credits for the program increasing or decreasing by more than 3 credits?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities be needed?

No

Description of institutional

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Description of institutional

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact

Will any additional library/learning resources needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program? No

Green Leaf Sustainability-focused academic programs

Relationship to

Relationship to

List sustainability-

focused courses

List sustainability-related courses

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Impacted

Additional Attachments [UGC-COS-Mod Program Geograpy Bs.pdf](#)
[BS-Geography-Remote-Sensing.pdf](#)

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

Reviewer

Comments

Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz) (11/12/21 3:03 pm): Rollback: Additional details into the Honors section per our email conversation.

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eshtml%

Attached

Key: 149