

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 04/05/22 4:24 pm

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

Last approved: 01/29/22 9:02 am

Last edit: 04/05/22 4:24 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

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

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 04/05/22 10:27 pm
Nathan Burtch
(nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. Nov 1, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Jan 17, 2018 by rzachari
3. Feb 28, 2018 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)
4. Mar 15, 2018 by rzachari
5. Feb 6, 2019 by Dieter Pfoser (dpfoser)
6. Jan 30, 2020 by Nathan Burtch (nburtch)
7. Jan 29, 2022 by Timothy Leslie (tleslie)

Anticipated close

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 Arts

Title:
Geography, BA

- 1. How was this badge created?
- 2. How was this badge approved?
- 3. How was this badge confirmed?
- 4. How was this badge reviewed?
- 5. Is this badge co-sponsored with another organization, program, or department?
- 6. What is the organization, program, or department?
- 7. What is the organization, program, or department?
- 8. What is the organization, program, or department?
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- 19. What is the organization, program, or department?
- 20. What is the organization, program, or department?

Skills Tag

Badge Attributes

Please select one from each category:

Achievement Type:

Mastery Level:

Time Commitment:

Cost:

Industry Standards:

Recommendations:

Issuance information and Pricing

Pricing: See <https://eng.gmu.edu/digitalbadgespricing/> for more information

Estimated Number of Badges Expected to be Issued:

Notes:

- A Mason Digital Credentials Advisory Group may be developed to revi

Banner Title: Geography, BA

Is this a retitling of an existing program?

Existing Program

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

Concentration(s):

	Associated Concentrations	Registrar's Office Use Only: Concentration Code
1	Environmental Geography	EGEO
2	Health Geography	HGEO
3	Geoanthropology	GEA

INTO Major(s):

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Geography & Geoinformation Science

Jointly Owned Program? No

Participating Participating

Justification

What: Removing GGS 319 and 456 from course options.

Why: The courses are being inactivated.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: minimum 120

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:
SC-BA-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](#). As outlined in the Requirements tab, students in this bachelor's program must also complete the additional College Requirements for the BA Degree.

[GGS 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.

Candidates for a degree in geography must complete the approved GGS geography courses with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

Students must complete the Core, Systematic and Regional Geography, and GGS electives, then select one concentration or an additional program, and lastly complete the College Requirements for the BA Degree and the Mason Core and Elective Credits.

Core Courses

GGS 102	Physical Geography (Mason Core)	3-4
or GGS 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core)	
or GGS 122	Dynamic Geosphere and Ecosphere	
GGS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core)	3
GGS 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies	3
GGS 300	Quantitative Methods for Geographical Analysis	3
GGS 310	Cartographic Design	3
GGS 311	Geographic Information Systems	3
GGS 415	Seminar in Geographic Thought and Methodology 1	3
Total Credits		21-22
1	Fulfills writing intensive requirement.	

Systematic and Regional Geography

Students must take one systematic course and one regional course from the list below:

Systematic Courses

Select one from the following:

3

GGS 301	Political Geography (Mason Core)
GGS 302	Global Environmental Hazards
GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)
GGS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)
GGS 305	Economic Geography
GGS 306	Urban Geography
GGS 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development
GGS 309	Introduction to Weather and Climate
GGS 312	Physical Climatology
GGS 314	Severe and Extreme Weather
GGS 319	Air Pollution
GGS 321	Biogeography
GGS 340	Health Geography
GGS 344	Military Geography
GGS 357	Urban Planning
GGS 456	Introduction to Atmospheric Radiation

Regional Courses

Select one from the following:

3

GGS 315	Geography of the United States
GGS 316	Geography of Latin America
GGS 317	Geography of China (Mason Core)
GGS 320	Geography of Europe
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East

GGS 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGS 333	Issues in Regional Geography
GGS 380	Geography of Virginia

Total Credits

6

GGG Electives

Select 3-4 credits of GGS electives	3-4
Select 6 credits of upper division GGS electives	6
Total Credits	9-10

Environmental Geography Concentration (EGEO)

The Environmental Geography concentration for the BA in Geography provides a unique opportunity for majors to take a broader, integrative science approach to studies of the environment. In collaboration with the [Department of Environmental Science and Policy](#), BA in Geography majors have the opportunity to focus their studies on geographic approaches to climatology and global changes, environmental issues, policy matters, and sustainability topics.

Some courses may have prerequisite requirements:

Core Courses

GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core)	3
EVPP 336	Human Dimensions of the Environment	3
or EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	
or EVPP 377	Applied Ecology	

Methods Course

GGS 354	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques	3
or GGS 379	Remote Sensing	

Electives

6-7

Select two additional courses from the following:

GGS 302	Global Environmental Hazards
GGS 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development
GGS 309	Introduction to Weather and Climate
GGS 312	Physical Climatology
GGS 314	Severe and Extreme Weather
GGS 319	Air Pollution
GGS 354	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques 1
GGS 379	Remote Sensing
EVPP 336	Human Dimensions of the Environment 1
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries 1
EVPP 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy
EVPP 377	Applied Ecology 1
EVPP 421	Marine Conservation
EVPP 440	Field Environmental Science

[EVPP 480](#) Sustainability in Action ([Mason Core](#)).

[GEOL 305](#) Environmental Geology

Total Credits

15-16

1 Course cannot be selected if previously selected as a core or methods course.

Health Geography Concentration (HGEO)

The field of Health Geography addresses the role of place, location dynamics and geography in health, well-being, and disease. Public health patterns can vary significantly by physical and social characteristics of places both within and between regions, states, or countries. In collaboration with the [Department of Global and Community Health](#), BA in Geography majors get introduced to local and global health issues and develop their skill set in spatial and statistical analysis of diverse health outcomes in populations.

Some courses may have prerequisite requirements:

Core Courses

[GGS 340](#) Health Geography 3

[GCH 300](#) Introduction to Public Health 3

Electives

Select 9 credits from the following courses. Choose at least one GGS elective and at least one GCH elective: 9

[GGS 302](#) Global Environmental Hazards

[GGS 303](#) Geography of Resource Conservation ([Mason Core](#)).

[GGS 304](#) Population Geography ([Mason Core](#)).

[GGS 306](#) Urban Geography

~~[GGS 319](#)~~ ~~Air Pollution~~

[GGS 321](#) Biogeography

[GGS 354](#) Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques

[GGS 463](#) RS: GIS Analysis and Application

[GCH 205](#) Global Health ([Mason Core](#)).

[GCH 332](#) Health and Disease

[GCH 360](#) Health and Environment

[GCH 412](#) Fundamentals of Epidemiology

[GCH 445](#) Social Determinants of Health

[GCH 450](#) Culture, Sexuality and the Global AIDS Epidemic

Total Credits

15

Geoanthropology Concentration (GEA)

Anthropology, a social science, focuses on human activities—past, present, and future. Geography, positioned in the social science and STEM field, studies the physical features of the Earth and its atmosphere, and human activities as they affect and are affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources, land use, urbanization and other topics. Just as anthropologists use insights from other disciplines to understand humans, geographers cross disciplinary boundaries to collect, store, analyze, model and visualize data. Such broad and inclusive disciplines and definitions yield a large number of possible themes in Geoanthropology. This concentration enables BA in Geography

majors, versed in systematic techniques and regional geography, to become better versed in the theoretical constructs of anthropology that situate the environment as part of a global cultural system.

Core Courses

[GGS 304](#) Population Geography ([Mason Core](#)) 3

Select one core track: 3

Cultural Track

[ANTH 114](#) Introduction to Cultural Anthropology ([Mason Core](#))

Archaeology Track

[ANTH 120](#) Unearthing the Past: Prehistory, Culture and Evolution ([Mason Core](#))

Biological Track

[ANTH 135](#) Introduction to Biological Anthropology ([Mason Core](#))

Electives

Select 9 credits from the following courses. Choose at least one GGS elective and at least one ANTH elective: 1 9

[GGS 301](#) Political Geography ([Mason Core](#))

[GGS 305](#) Economic Geography

[GGS 306](#) Urban Geography

[GGS 307](#) Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development

[GGS 309](#) Introduction to Weather and Climate

[GGS-319](#) ~~Air Pollution~~

[GGS 321](#) Biogeography

[GGS 357](#) Urban Planning

[GGS 315](#) Geography of the United States

[GGS 316](#) Geography of Latin America

[GGS 320](#) Geography of Europe

[GGS 325](#) Geography of North Africa and the Middle East

[GGS 333](#) Issues in Regional Geography

[GGS 380](#) Geography of Virginia

Cultural Track

[ANTH 302](#) Peoples and Cultures of Latin America ([Mason Core](#))

[ANTH 308](#) Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East ([Mason Core](#))

[ANTH 309](#) Peoples and Cultures of India ([Mason Core](#))

[ANTH 376](#) Food and Culture

[ANTH 381](#) Medical Anthropology

[ANTH 382](#) Urban Anthropology ([Mason Core](#))

[ANTH 396](#) Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences ([Mason Core](#)) (Cultural Topic)

[ANTH 499](#) Independent Research (Cultural Topic)

Archaeology Track

[ANTH 307](#) Ancient Mesoamerica ([Mason Core](#))

[ANTH 325](#) Field Techniques in Archaeology

[ANTH 357](#) Bioarchaeology

[ANTH 370](#) Environment and Culture

[ANTH 377](#) Mortuary Archaeology

- [ANTH 379](#) Andean Archaeology
- [ANTH 396](#) Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences ([Mason Core](#)) (Archaeological Topic)
- [ANTH 499](#) Independent Research (Archaeological Topic)

Biological Track

- [ANTH 355](#) Human Origins
- [ANTH 357](#) Bioarchaeology
- [ANTH 366](#) Food and Human Evolution
- [ANTH 396](#) Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences ([Mason Core](#)) (Biological Topic)
- [ANTH 499](#) Independent Research (Biological Topic)

Total Credits

15

1Students must select ANTH electives that are associated with the chosen core course track (Cultural, Archaeology, or Biology).

Alternative to a Concentration

Students who are not selecting a concentration must choose an established minor or second major. 1

1Students choosing an established minor or major must apply a minimum number of credits only to that minor or major, as detailed in [AP 4.2.1](#).

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

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:

GGS 463	RS: GIS Analysis and Application	3
GGS 499	GGS Independent Study 1	3
3 credits of 500-699 level GGS courses	2	3

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

2Eligibility 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 students are able

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

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

No

Off-campus details:

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

No

Please explain:

Related Departments

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

No

Please explain:

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Please explain:

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, doctoral)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

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)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

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)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this a re-opening of a program that was closed to admission within the last five years?

Date of Program Closure

What are the methods of delivery for the program?

Does this program include a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

Is this change a simple retitling of an existing program, with no other changes, to any existing program content, curriculum requirements, etc?

No

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral)?

No

Which existing approved program(s)?

Percentage of total credits containing new course content. ("New course content" is defined by SACSCOC as content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level. Do not exclude gen ed credits in calculations for undergraduate programs.)

0%-24%

Does this change include the addition of a distance education or face-to-face method of delivery for this program?

No

What is the new method of delivery?

Does this change include the addition of a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

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 Designation

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated

Relationship to Existing Courses

Relationship to Existing Programs

List sustainability-focused courses currently required in the degree

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least one sustainability-related course or else offer any green leaf course as an option or elective *

List sustainability-related courses currently required in the degree

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Impacted Departments

Additional Attachments

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

**Reviewer
Comments**

**Additional
Comments**

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

%wi_required.eshtml%

**Attached
Document**

Key: 148