

Program Approval Form

For approval of new programs and deletions or modifications to an existing program.

Action Requested:

☐ Create New (SCHEV approval required except for minors)

☐ Inactivate Existing

☒ Modify Existing (check **ALL** that apply)

☐ Title (SCHEV approval required except for minors)

☒ Concentration (Choose one): ☒ Add ☐ Delete ☐ Modify

☐ Degree Requirements

☐ Admission Standards/ Application Requirements

☐ Other

☐ Changes: _____

Type (Check one):

☒ B.A. ☐ B.S. ☐ Minor

☐ Master's

☐ Ph.D.

☐ Undergraduate Certificate*

☐ Graduate Certificate*

☐ Bachelor's/Accelerated

☐ Master's

☐ Other: _____

College/School:

College of Science

Department:

Geography and Geoinformation Science

Submitted by:

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Effective Term:

Fall

2018

Please note: For students to be admitted to a new degree, minor, certificate or concentration, the program must be fully approved, entered into Banner, and published in the University Catalog.

Justification: (attach separate document if necessary)

See Attached

Program Title: (Required)

Title must identify subject matter. Do not include name of college/school/dept.

Concentration(s):

Admissions Standards / Application

Requirements: (Required only if different from those listed in the University Catalog)

Degree Requirements:

Consult University Catalog for models, attach separate document if necessary using track changes for modifications

Courses offered via distance:

(if applicable)

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED:

Existing	New/Modified
Geography	
Health Geography Environmental Geography	Geoanthropology (new)
None	
	See Attached
	15

*For Certificates Only: Indicate whether students are able to pursue on a

☐ Full-time basis

☐ Part-time basis

If this program may impact another unit or is in collaboration with another unit at Mason, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date
Sociology and Anthropology	Amy Best, Chair		

Provost Office

Undergraduate Council Approval Date

For Graduate Programs Only

Graduate Council Member	Provost Office	Graduate Council Approval Date
For Registrar Office's Use Only: Received _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____		

revised 9/2/2016

Proposed Concentration “Geoanthropology” for Geography BA

Fall 2018

The Geography BA curriculum offers two concentration options: Environmental Geography and Health Geography. We seek to extend the concentration options for this program by developing an additional career-centered concentration as potential degree plan option, while leaving open the ability to complete a minor or 2nd major elsewhere on campus.

This proposed concentration builds on Geoanthropology and thus focuses on an interdisciplinary approach to the study of diachronic and synchronic interactions between the environment and humanity. 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 will enable 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.

George Mason’s close proximity to the DC Metropolitan area, a hub for social science and natural science research, data-driven startups, and federal agencies, means that a BA in Geography with the Geoanthropology Concentration would prepare Mason students for the growing job market in government agencies, national park services, public and private museums (e.g. Smithsonian Institution), environmental and conservation institutes, private and federal granting institutions (National Science Foundation, American Anthropology Association, Society of American Archaeology), and many private companies.

Requirements for the Concentration in Geoanthropology

The concentration is developed in close alliance with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Both units reviewed the concentration proposal and determined that to complete the concentration, students must complete 15 hours of credit, all coursework for the concentration must be unique from other BA requirements, with a minimum GPA of 2.00, consisting of:

Core Courses (6 CR)

1. GGS 304 - Population Geography

AND

2. Select **one core** track:

Cultural Track: ANTH 114: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Archeology Track: ANTH 120: Unearthing the Past: Prehistory, Culture and Evolution

Biological Track: ANTH 135: Introduction to Biological Anthropology

Rationale: The required courses provide the fundamental information for career pathways that require an integrated, multidisciplinary knowledge of one aspect (track) of anthropology and geography.

Three Elective Courses (9 CR) (Select at least one course (3CR) from the GGS electives list and at least one course from the ANTH electives list) Students need to select ANTH electives that are associated with the chosen core course track (cultural, archeology, or biology).

GGS Electives

GGS 301 - Political Geography

GGS 305 - Economic Geography

GGS 306 - Urban Geography

GGS 307 - Sustainable Development

GGs 309 - Meteorology and Climate
GGs 319 - Air Pollution
GGs 321 - Biogeography
GGs 322 - Issues in Global Change
GGs 357 - Structures in Urban Governance and 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 330 - Geography of the Soviet Succession States
GGs 333 - Issues in Regional Geography
GGs 380 - Geography of Virginia

ANTH Electives

Cultural Track (prerequisite ANTH 114)

ANTH 302: Peoples and Cultures of Latin America
ANTH 303: Peoples and Cultures of the Andes
ANTH 308: Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East
ANTH 309: Peoples and Cultures of India
ANTH 376: Food and Culture
ANTH 381: Medical Anthropology
ANTH 382: Urban Anthropology
ANTH 396: Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Cultural Topic)
ANTH 499: Independent Research (Cultural Topic)

ANTH Electives

Archeology Track (prerequisite ANTH 120)

ANTH 307: Ancient Mesoamerica
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 (Archeology Topic)
ANTH 499: Independent Research (Archaeology Topic)

ANTH Electives

Biological Track (prerequisite ANTH 135)

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

Rationale: Because the fields of anthropology and geography are very broad in nature, the elective coursework is designed to allow students to develop a program that suits their interests. Sectioning the elective coursework into GGS and ANTH sections exposes students to approaches and topics in both fields, which is essential for careers that require a working knowledge of both.

Approvals:

- Approval from GGS Curriculum Committee on 4/4/2017
- Passed GGS Department Vote on 4/19/2017
- Passed Sociology and Anthropology Department Vote on
