

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 11/25/19 3:57 pm

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

Last approved: 02/06/19 3:32 pm

Last edit: 12/06/19 11:37 am

Changes proposed by: nburtch

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

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

No

Effective Catalog: 2020-2021

Program Level: Undergraduate

Program Type: Bachelor's

Degree Type: Bachelor of Arts

Title: Geography, BA

Banner Title: Geography, BA

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Status: Approved

Registrar's Office Use Only – Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter

Concentration(s):

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 11/25/19 5:27 pm
Nathan Burtch
(nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. Nov 1, 2017 by
clmig-jwehrheim
2. Jan 17, 2018 by
Rebekah Zacharias
(rzachari)
3. Feb 28, 2018 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)

- 4. Mar 15, 2018 by
Rebekah Zacharias
(rzachari)
- 5. Feb 6, 2019 by
Dieter Pfoser
(dpfoser)

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

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Geography & Geoinformation Science

Jointly Owned Program? No

Justification Adding courses to the major

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 Geography 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

Course List

Code	Title	Credits
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
or GGS 210	Introduction to Spatial Computing	
GGS 300	Quantitative Methods for Geographical Analysis	3
GGS 310	Introduction to Digital Cartography	3
GGS 311	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3
GGS 415	Seminar in Geography 1	3

Code	Title	Credits
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:

Course List		Credits
Code	Title	
Systematic Courses		
Select one from the following:		3
GGS 301	Political Geography	
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	Meteorology and Climate	
GGS 312	Physical Climatology	
GGS 314	Severe and Extreme Weather	
GGS 319	Air Pollution	
GGS 321	Biogeography	
GGS 322	Issues in Global Change	
GGS 340	Health Geography	
GGS 344	Military Geography	
GGS 357	Urban Planning	
GGS 398	Selected Topics in Global Change	
GGS 399	Select Topics in GGS	
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	

Code	Title	Credits
GGS 317	Geography of China	
GGS 320	Geography of Europe	
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	
GGS 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia	
GGS 330	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia	
GGS 333	Issues in Regional Geography	
GGS 380	Geography of Virginia	
Total Credits		6

GGG Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Course List		
Select 9-10 credits of electives. 1		9-10
Total Credits		9-10

1 Two of the three courses must be upper-level GGS courses.

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:

Code	Title	Credits
Course List		
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 412	Air Photography Interpretation	
Electives		6-7

Code	Title	Credits
Select two courses from the following:		
GGS 302	Global Environmental Hazards	
GGS 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
GGS 309	Meteorology and Climate	
GGS 312	Physical Climatology	
GGS 314	Severe and Extreme Weather	
GGS 319	Air Pollution	
GGS 322	Issues in Global Change	
GGS 354	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques 1	
GGS 412	Air Photography Interpretation 1	
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:

Course List		
Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
GGS 340	Health Geography	3

Code	Title	Credits
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 322	Issues in Global Change	
GGS 354	Data Analysis and Global Change Detection Techniques	
GGS 463	RS: Applied Geographic Information Systems	
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

Geanthropology 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 Geanthropology. 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.

Course List

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
GGS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core)	3
Select one core track:		3

Code	Title	Credits
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	
GGS 305	Economic Geography	
GGS 306	Urban Geography	
GGS 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
GGS 309	Meteorology and Climate	
GGS 319	Air Pollution	
GGS 321	Biogeography	
GGS 322	Issues in Global Change	
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 330	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia	
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)	

Code	Title	Credits
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

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

Additional Program

Students who are not selecting a concentration may choose 15 or more credits consisting of an established minor, concentration, second major, or other coherent selection of courses approved by the advisor and the department chair:

Code	Course List Title	Credits
Select 15 or more credits as outlined above.		15
Total Credits		15

**Retroactive
Requirements
Updates:**

Plan of Study:

**Honors
Information:**

Additional Program Information

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

Courses offered via distance (if applicable):

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?

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

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

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

Are you adding significant new content areas to the program?

Will this program change affect any specialized accreditation?

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program? No

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Additional Attachments [UGC-COS-Program-Mod-Geography-BA.pdf](#)

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

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