

# GEOGRAPHY, B.A.

Students may elect a general geography major or opt for the major with a concentration in Urban Planning, Earth Science, or Geographic Information Science.

## Student Learning Goals

Upon completion of this major, students will possess the geographic knowledge and skills necessary to exhibit basic competence in earth science/environmental systems, human geography/social systems, and regional geography with a focus on environmental and social sustainability. They will be adept at investigating geographic issues utilizing current research techniques and methodologies within the discipline, and proficiently communicating their findings in both written and oral form.

## Overall Requirements

- 120 credit hours, to include at least 36 credits at or above the 300 course level.
- A minimum of 27 credits in geography above the 100 level. Only grades of C- or higher will count toward completion of the major and concentrations.
- No more than 6 credit hours from GES courses numbered 160-170, 260-289, 360-399, 460-489 may be applied to the major.

## Degree Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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University Requirements (<https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/undergraduate-requirements/undergraduate-degrees-and-degree-requirements/>)

General Education Requirements (MAC) (<https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/undergraduate-requirements/general-education-program/#generaleducationcorerequirementstext>)

College of Arts and Sciences Additional Requirements (CIC) (<https://catalog.uncg.edu/arts-sciences/#additionalundergraduateresultstext>)

## Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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### Geographic Techniques 3

*Select one of the following courses:*

GES 121	Introduction to Geographic Information Science
GES 322	Research Methods & Data Analysis
GES 357	Principles of Cartography
GES 358	Geographic Information Systems
GES 359	Earth from Space

### Earth Science 3-4

*Select one option of the following courses:*

Option A:

GES 108	Our Dynamic Planet
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Option B:

GES 103 & 103L	Introduction to Earth Science and Earth Science Laboratory
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### Human Geography 3

*Select one of the following courses:*

GES 105	People, Place, and Environment
GES 301	Cities of the World
GES 302	Urban Geography: Sustainable Land Use
GES 303	World Population Problems
GES 304	Sustainable Transport, Mobility, Wellbeing
GES 306	World Economic Geography
GES 315	The Geography of World Affairs

### Regional Geography 3

*Select one of the following courses:*

GES 102	The Historical Geography of the Western World
GES 104	World Regional Geography
GES 313	Natural Resource Regions of North America
GES 333	Topics in Regional Geography
GES 340	Geography of East Asia
GES 344	Geography of the United States and Canada
GES 451	Seminar in Regional Geography
GES 491	Current Topics in Regional Geography

## Optional Concentrations

Any of the optional concentrations as detailed following the major requirements may be added, but a concentration is not required.

- Earth Science
- Geographic Information Science
- Urban Planning

## Electives

Electives sufficient to complete the 120 credit hours required for degree.

### Earth Science Concentration Requirements

A central theme of geography is human interaction with the earth's physical environment. This concentration permits students to apply the basic scientific principles of physical geography, cartography, and natural resource analysis to the problem of ensuring a high quality of life through maintenance of the natural processes that support human existence. This concentration also provides training to enhance the employment opportunities of students with a strong interest in environmental assessment and resource evaluation.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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### Additional Concentration Requirements 23

GES 319 & 319L	Weather and Climate and Climatology Laboratory
GES 314 & 314L	Physical Geography: Landscape Processes and Physical Geography Laboratory

*Select five of the following courses:*

GES 205	Environmental Change: Its Nature and Impact
GES 305	Environmental Hazards Assessment
GES 312	Geomorphology of North America
GES 330	Elements of Hydrology
GES 357	Principles of Cartography
GES 358	Geographic Information Systems

GES 359	Earth from Space
GES 418	Biogeography
GES 419	Advanced Weather and Climate-Synoptic Climatology
GES 450	Applied Physical Geography
GES 457	Advanced Cartography
GES 459	Advanced Remote Sensing-Imaging

### Geographic Information Science Concentration Requirements

Students with this concentration will develop skills in using maps, geospatial computer programs, and remotely sensed images to answer geographic questions relevant to land use planning, urban development, geomorphic or biogeographic processes, or environmental impact assessment. A capstone course (GES 421), which includes a faculty-directed major project, is completed in the final semester.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Additional Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>16</b>
GES 121 & 121L	Introduction to Geographic Information Science and Intro to Geographic Information Science Laboratory	
GES 357	Principles of Cartography	
GES 358	Geographic Information Systems	
GES 359	Earth from Space	
<i>Select one of the following courses:</i>		
GES 457	Advanced Cartography	
GES 459	Advanced Remote Sensing-Imaging	
GES 421	Geographic Information Science *	

\* Taken after the completion of the other Additional Concentration Requirements.

### Urban Planning Concentration Requirements

The inter-regional shift of people and jobs in the United States and elsewhere over the past decades coupled with the movement away from large central cities has increased the need for formal urban and regional planning. Planners are needed in the private sector as well as in state and local governments to provide the appropriate kinds of economic and community development that will ensure a high quality of life in both developed and developing countries. In a growth region like the Southeast, geographers with a planning background are in increasing demand

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Additional Concentration Requirements</b>		<b>24</b>
GES 105	People, Place, and Environment	
GES 301	Cities of the World	
GES 306	World Economic Geography	
<i>Select five of the following courses:</i>		
GES 302	Urban Geography: Sustainable Land Use	
GES 303	World Population Problems	
GES 304	Sustainable Transport, Mobility, Wellbeing	
GES 320	Tourism Planning and Development	

GES 322	Research Methods & Data Analysis
GES 331	Sustainable Tourism and Transportation
GES 344	Geography of the United States and Canada
GES 357	Principles of Cartography
GES 402	Sustainable Urban Planning in an Entrepreneurial Environment
GES 432	Geography of Livable Cities
GES 433	Regional Economic Development

### Geography as a Second Major

- Minimum of 27 credit hours

A student may obtain a second major in geography along with any other major. The student should take 27 credits, including four core courses listed above for the Geography Major. Students considering this option should consult a faculty member in the department.

### Disciplinary Honors in Geography Requirements

- A minimum of 12 credit hours as defined below.
- UNC Greensboro cumulative GPA of 3.30 or better or, for transfer students, cumulative GPA of 3.30 or better from all prior institutions.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required</b>		<b>3-6</b>
HSS 490 or GES 493	Senior Honors Project Honors Work	
<b>6 credits of Honors course work in the major</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>3 credits of Honors course work in the major or another area</b>		<b>3</b>

### Recognition

Receive a Certificate of Disciplinary Honors in Geography; have that accomplishment, along with the title of the Senior Honors Project, noted on the official transcript; and be recognized at a banquet held at the end of the spring semester.

### Honors Advisor

Contact Jay Lennartson at [gjlennar@uncg.edu](mailto:gjlennar@uncg.edu) for further information and guidance about Honors Geography.

To apply: <https://honorscollege.uncg.edu/lloyd-international-honors-college/academics/admissions-scholarships/disciplinary-honors-admissions/>.