

# Geography - B.S.

College of  
Arts and Sciences

Geography analyzes and explains the location of and interrelationships between human and physical features of the earth's environment. Geographers also examine how and why features and their locations change over time, with particular interest in the many impacts of these changes on both people and natural settings. Geography is, therefore, both a social and a physical science. Because its fundamental subject matter is people and their environments, the discipline serves as an effective bridge between the physical and cultural worlds.

Majors in geography build solid academic foundations that draw from and interrelate areas of study from the environmental sciences, natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, humanities, digital studies, and graphic communication. With developed analytical, critical thinking, and communication skills, geography is particularly useful for students wishing to enter a wide range of careers, such as economic development, environmental management, international trade, transportation analysis, diplomacy, government administration, market analysis, urban and regional planning, research, teaching, cartography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and private business.

The Department of Geography has developed detailed major concentration tracks in three areas: Mapping and GIS, Environment, and Cities and Societies. For more information, contact the Department of Geography at 859-257-2931, or on the web at: <https://geography.as.uky.edu/>.

## 120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree must complete a minimum of 60 hours in natural, physical, mathematical, and computer science. Please note: courses with a GEO prefix are generally not accepted towards fulfilling this 60-hour requirement. Therefore, be sure to keep this requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. A complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, including a specific listing of courses applicable to the 60-hour requirement, can be found in the *Arts and Sciences* section of the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Catalog.

### UK Core Requirements

See the *UK Core* section of the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Catalog for the complete UK Core requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill UK Core areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the UK Core requirements.

<b>I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3
<b>II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3
<b>III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3
<b>IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3
<b>V. Composition and Communication I</b>	
CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I .....	3
<b>VI. Composition and Communication II</b>	
CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II .....	3
<b>VII. Quantitative Foundations</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3

<b>VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3

<b>IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3

<b>X. Global Dynamics</b>	
Choose one course from approved list.....	3
<b>UK Core hours</b> .....	<b>30</b>

<b>Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR)</b>	
GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar .....	3

<b>Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement hours (GCCR)</b> .....	<b>3</b>
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<b>College Requirements</b>	
I. Foreign Language ( <i>placement exam recommended</i> ) .....	0-14
II. Disciplinary Requirements	
a. Natural Science.....	3
b. Social Science ( <i>completed by Major Requirements</i> ) .....	3
c. Humanities.....	3
III. Laboratory or Field Work.....	1
IV. Race and Ethnicity Requirement.....	0-3
V. Electives.....	6

<b>College Requirement hours:</b> .....	<b>13-30</b>
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### Major Requirements

<b>Major Core Requirements</b>	
GEO 200 Orientation to Geography .....	3
GEO 406 Field Studies in Geography (Subtitle required).....	3
GEO 309 Introduction to GIS .....	3
GEO 499 Senior Research Seminar .....	3
<b>Major Core hours:</b> .....	<b>12</b>

## TRACKS

Students must complete 15 credit hours from one of the following three tracks.

### Mapping and GIS Track

GEO 109 Digital Mapping.....	3
GEO 210 How the Internet Works: Understanding Digital Places and People .....	3
GEO 305 Elements of Cartography .....	3
GEO 310 Data Explorations and Applications in Everyday Life .....	3
GEO 311 Qualitative Methods in Geography.....	3
GEO 361 GIS Applications for Health .....	3
GEO 399 Internship in Geography .....	3
GEO 405 Advanced Cartography .....	3
GEO 409 Advanced GIS .....	3
GEO 419 Introduction to Remote Sensing .....	3
GEO 509 Workshop in Geospatial Technologies.....	3
<b>Track hours:</b> .....	<b>15</b>

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The University of Kentucky is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, educational specialist, and doctorate degrees. The University of Kentucky also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of the University of Kentucky may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).

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## Environment Track

GEO 130 Earth's Physical Environment.....	3
GEO 135 Global Climate Change.....	3
GEO 162 Introduction to Global Environmental Issues.....	3
GEO 230 Severe Storms and Extreme Weather.....	3
GEO 235 Environmental Management and Policy.....	3
GEO 261 Global Dynamics of Health and Disease.....	3
GEO 316 Environment and Development.....	3
GEO 320 Geography of the United States and Canada.....	3
GEO 323 Mexico: Environment, Politics and Society.....	3
GEO 324 Geography of Central and South America and the Caribbean.....	3
GEO 326 Geography of Europe.....	3
GEO 328 Geography of the Middle East and North Africa.....	3
GEO 332 Geography of Southeast Asia.....	3
GEO 333 Geography of East Asia.....	3
GEO 336 Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa.....	3
GEO 351 Physical Landscapes.....	3
GEO 362 Conserving Global Environments.....	3
GEO 372 Health Environment Futures.....	3
GEO 399 Internship in Geography.....	3
GEO 419 Introduction to Remote Sensing.....	3
GEO 431 Political Ecology.....	3
GEO 451G Fluvial Forms and Processes.....	3
GEO 530 Biogeography and Conservation.....	3
<b>Track hours:</b> .....	<b>15</b>

## Cities and Societies Track

GEO 160 Globalization and Social Justice.....	3
GEO 161 Global Inequalities.....	3
GEO 172 Human Geography.....	3
GEO 220 U.S. Cities.....	3
GEO 221 Immigrant America: A Geographic Perspective.....	3
GEO 222 Cities of the World.....	3
GEO 255 Geography of the Global Economy.....	3
GEO 261 Global Dynamics of Health and Disease.....	3
GEO 285 Introduction to Planning.....	3
GEO 311 Qualitative Methods in Geography.....	3
GEO 316 Environment and Development.....	3
GEO 320 Geography of the United States and Canada.....	3
GEO 323 Mexico: Environment, Politics and Society.....	3
GEO 324 Geography of Central and South America and the Caribbean.....	3
GEO 326 Geography of Europe.....	3
GEO 328 Geography of the Middle East and North Africa.....	3
GEO 332 Geography of Southeast Asia.....	3
GEO 333 Geography of East Asia.....	3
GEO 336 Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa.....	3
GEO 399 Internship in Geography.....	3
GEO 422 Urban Geography.....	3
GEO 442G Political Geography.....	3
GEO 455 Globalization and the Changing World Economy.....	3
GEO 475 Health and Medical Care in Space and Time.....	3
GEO 485G Urban Planning and Sustainability.....	3
<b>Track hours:</b> .....	<b>15</b>

## Breadth Electives

Students must complete an additional 12 credit hours from one or both of the tracks that were not selected as the student's primary track within the major. Of the 12 credit hours, 6 credit hours must be at the 300-level or above. Courses used to satisfy the track requirement may not be used to satisfy the breadth requirement.

**Breadth electives hours:**..... **12**

## Electives

Choose electives to lead to the minimum total of 120 hours required for graduation.

**Elective hours:**..... **4**

## Total Minimum Hours

**Required for Degree**..... **120**