Program Overview

Geography is a science that focuses on the spatial analysis of human/physical patterns and processes. Geographers attempt to identify the factors affecting the distribution of people and their activities on the surface of the earth and to provide meaningful solutions to problems faced by societies. This discipline is an ideal major for the liberal arts student, providing exposure to the concepts and techniques utilized in investigating environmental issues, socioeconomic problems, and planning policies.

The Geography program offers a distinctive curriculum that focuses on the study of human-environmental interaction and is premised upon a model of scientific education that integrates the natural/physical and social sciences. The program takes a place-based approach to this topic, seeking to understand in a holistic manner how cultural, political, economic, natural, and physical processes combine and interact to shape and re-shape landscapes, cities, regions, and nations through time.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a dual-advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising
clasadvising@ucdenver.edu
Find your CLAS Advisor here
North Classroom (NC) Building 1030
303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Bryan Wee
bryan.wee@ucdenver.edu
Visit the department website here
North Classroom (NC) Building 3016-B
303-315-7534

General Graduation Requirements & Policies

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours passed
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all college and major requirements
5. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

Credits exceeding the following maximum hour restrictions will not be applied toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study
- 9 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

Career Resources

There are two main branches of geography: human geography and physical geography. Human geographers work in in careers such as urban and regional planning, transportation, marketing, real estate, tourism, or international business. Physical geographers have careers in areas like forecasting the weather, managing land and water resources, or analyzing and plan for forests, rangelands and wetlands. Geographers also commonly work in geographic information science & technology. Related occupations for Geography graduates include:

- Cartographer
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Spatial Analysis Consultant
- Climatologist
- Environmental Scientist
- Sustainability Manager
- Community Organizer
- GIS Analyst
- Urban/Regional Planner
- Environmental Consultant
- Market Researcher
- Water Resource Specialist

Some careers and occupations require additional training or education. Interested in learning more about career and occupational options for this major? Visit the CU Denver Career Center located in the Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 267 to speak with a career counselor. The Career Center also provides Career Briefs, overviews of careers related to specific CU Denver majors, which include related links and resources to the particular field and show potential jobs related to the major. Access Career Briefs here.
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. Students completing the Geography B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 36 semester hours in Geography with a grade of C- (1.7) or better in each course.
2. Complete 24 hours of upper division semester hours with at least 15 semester hours in residency at CU Denver.

Courses | Credits | Notes
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**Required Courses** | 22 | 
ENVS 1044 & 1045 Introduction to Environmental Sciences and Lab | 4 | 
ENVS 1342 Environment, Society, and Sustainability | 3 | 
GEOG 1302 Introduction to Human Geography or | 3 | 
GEOG 2080 Introduction to Mapping and Map Analysis | 3 | 
GEOG 3232 Weather and Climate | 3 | *Prerequisite: GEOG1202 or ENVS1044 & 1045
GEOG 3411 Globalization and Regional Development | 3 | *Prerequisite: GEOG 2080 with a grade of C or better
GEOG 4080 Introduction to GIS | 3 | 
Environmental Studies Elective Courses | 9 | See department for course listings
Environmental Policy and Planning Elective Courses | 6 | See department for course listings
Techniques for Environmental Analysis Elective Course | 3 | See department for course listings.

**Total Program Hours:** 40

SUGGESTED ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a suggested pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Academic advisors recommend students tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit) and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

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<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Fall</th>
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**Year One** | Fall | ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I | 3 | ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II | 3 | 
| | CU Core Mathematics | 3 | CU Core Humanities | 3 | 
| | ENVS 1044 & 1045 | 4 | ENVS 1342 | 3 | 
| | CU Core Arts | 3 | General Elective | 3 | 
| | General Elective | 3 | General Elective | 3 | 
**Year Two** | Fall | GEOG 1302 | 4 | GEOG 2080 | 3 | 
| | CLAS Communicative Skills | 3 | CU Core Cultural Diversity | 3 | 
| | CU Core Behavioral Science | 3 | CLAS Behavioral Science | 3 | 
| | CLAS Humanities | 3 | General Elective | 3 | 
| | CU Core Science with lab | 4 | General Elective | 3 | 
**Year Three** | Fall | GEOG 3232 | 3 | GEOG 3411 | 3 | 
| | CU Core International Perspectives | 3 | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
| | CLAS Foreign Language Semester I | 5 | CLAS Foreign Language Semester II | 5 | 
| | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
**Year Four** | Fall | GEOG 4080 | 3 | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
| | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | GEOG Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
| | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
| | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 
| | General Elective | 3 | General Upper-Division Elective | 3 | 

*Major Course Available  **Prerequisite Enforced  ***Prerequisite Recommended