

Geography Major—Urban Track 2014

		Units
_____	16 Units of Geography Core	
_____	100 Introduction to Geography	1
_____	210 Physical Geography	5
_____	230 Human Geography	3
_____	270 GIS I: Introduction to GIS and Mapping	3
_____	400 Capstone in Geography	1
_____	4XX One course from list below:	3
	420 Human and Climate Interactions	
	423 Rivers and Floods	
	440 Applied Business GIS Applications	
	444-Urban Land Use Planning	
	452 Cultural Ecology & Sustainable Development	
	455 Advanced Topics in Human Geography	
	460 GIS In Water Resources	
	470 Applied Environmental & Natural Resources GIS	
	477 Advanced GIS	
	485 Internship in Geography	
	491 Travel Study – Geography or Geology	
	492 Field Course – Geography or Geology	
	499 Geography Thesis	
_____	3 Units of Urban Track Core	
_____	344 Urban Geography	3
_____	6-9 Units of Electives from Urban Track Offerings	
_____	245 Gender and Geography	3
_____	332 Political Geography	3
_____	334 Historical Geography	3
_____	335 Geography of Population and Migration	3
_____	340 Economic Geography	3
_____	444 Urban Land Use Planning	3
_____	6-9 Units of Geography Technical Courses	
_____	290 Spatial Analysis	3
_____	370 GIS II: Spatial Data and Analysis	3
_____	377 Remote Sensing	3
_____	380 Cartography and Geovisualization	3
_____	440 Applied GIS: Applications for Business and Industry	3
_____	470 Applied GIS: Environmental and Natural Resource	3
_____	0-3 Units of 300 or 400 Level Geography Courses	

34 Minimum Units in Geography Courses

_____	3 Units in English	
_____	370 Advanced Composition	
_____	372 Technical and Scientific Writing	

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR GEOGRAPHY MAJORS IN THE URBAN TRACK

Advising and Involvement in the Geography Department: Students should regularly consult with their main advisor in the Geography Department. All students are strongly advised to become involved in departmental activities such as the Geography Club, undergraduate research opportunities, field trips and attending guest lectures.

Career Choices with This Major Emphasis: The Urban/Area track in Geography emphasizes understanding of the urban environment (commercial, industrial, social, planning, and historical patterns) and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Individuals possessing this conceptual and applied knowledge combined with strong technical skills (GIS) are in high demand in both the private and public sector. Recent graduates have gone to work for such companies as Kemper Insurance, Kohl's Department Stores, Volvo Motors, Johnson Controls, Newspaper Services of America and public sector agencies such as U.S. Census Bureau, Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation, SEWRPC and Jefferson County Planning Dept. These graduates are typically involved in a wide range of activities such as site location, target marketing, transportation planning, urban planning, market research, and growth forecasting. All of these activities share in common an understanding of GIS and the urban landscape.

Minors: Given the wide ranges of career choices available to Geography majors a minor should be selected that compliments your career and personal interests. Students highly interested in planning related careers may want to take the General Geography major track and the interdisciplinary Urban and Area Development Minor.

Graduate School: Many students seek to continue and specialize their education beyond the undergraduate degree in Geography. Unlike undergraduate education, graduate programs provide students who possess good grades, a good Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score, and strong faculty letters of recommendation with generous funding and tuition reimbursement. An excellent place to start your search for graduate programs is the *Guide to Geography Departments* found in the Geography Department office, Upham 219. Also all interested students should plan to take the GRE exam early in their senior year.

Field Study Courses: Geography is a field-oriented discipline. There is no substitute for field experience. All majors should look for ways to gain this experience. Opportunities in the department include regularly scheduled United States and Europe field courses. Check the Fall/Spring/Summer timetables for course listings. There are also semester study abroad opportunities available for students. International Education and Programs in Baker 127 is one source of information on semester aboard programs.

Student Portfolio: Students should be maintaining a portfolio that will contain examples of their work. Examples found in most students' portfolios include such items as maps, GIS projects, papers, and internship reports. An excellent way to collect and display this work is to place all materials in plastic notebook sleeves that are inserted into a three ring binder. A well-organized portfolio will demonstrate your technical and writing skills. This will increase the likelihood that you will get the internship or job you are seeking.

Geography Internships: All geography seniors should strongly consider obtaining applied experience through the Geography Dept. internship program. Virtually all geography internships are paid. While most internships have been developed by department faculty students can, with the approval of a supervising faculty member, develop their own internship opportunities.