

**SAMPLE Four-Year Plan**  
**B.A. Geography - Geology**  
**FALL 2023 Requirements**

The curriculum in the geography major is somewhat flexible in that there are some required sequences and it allows students to move through other coursework in many ways. This four-year plan illustrates one possible path a new freshman could take to complete a degree in four years. This is not an official document and is not the only way that a geography degree can be completed in four years. Current students should refer to their individual Academic Advising Report for specific graduation requirements. Courses in bold indicate major-based coursework that is completed in the first year.

**First Year**

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
English 101 Intro to College Writing and Reading	3	English 102 Intro to College Writing, Reading, Research	3
<b>Math 139 Quantitative Reasoning</b>	3	<b>Geography 210 OR Geology 100 OR Geology 101</b>	4-5
<b>Geography 100 Introduction to Geography</b>	1	<b>Gened CORE 140 Global Perspectives</b>	3
<b>Geography 230 Human Geography</b>	3	General Education Elective	3
Gened CORE 130 Individual and Society	3	PEGNRL 192 Personal Health and Fitness for Life	1
Intrauniversity 104 New Student Seminar	1		
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14-15</b>

**Notes:** The math and English courses you will take during your first year will depend on placement exam scores. This four-year plan reflects the math and English courses most common for students in this major. All students are encouraged to submit test scores prior to attending Warhawks SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration).

**Opportunities:** Joining a university-sponsored club and actively participating is strongly encouraged. Involvement in a club or activity will help you develop interpersonal skills, give you the opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills, and adds to your resume. Some clubs that may be of particular interest to students with a geography major include the Whitewater Geography Association, WeatherHawks, and Students Allied for a Green Earth (SAGE).

**Second Year**

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Geology (204 or 214), 310, 317, 318, OR 319	3-4	Geography 270 GIS 1: Mapping Our World	3
Gened CORE 110 World of the Arts	3	Geology (204 or 214), 310, 317, 318, OR 319	3-4
U.S. Racial/Ethnic Diversity Course	3	Communication 110 Intro to Human Communication	3
BA World Language course	4	BA World Language course	4
General Education Elective	3	Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16-17</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16-17</b>

**Notes:** Students in the Geography - Geology emphasis select 3-4 courses from: Geology 204 Earth and Life History OR 214 Earth's Environmental History, Geology 310 Rocks and Minerals, Geology 317 Paleontology, Geology 318 Geologic Structures and Field Methods, and Geology 319 Stratigraphy and Sedimentation.

**Opportunities:** Students are encouraged to start thinking about selecting a minor in the second year. The most common minors selected by geography major are Environmental Studies and Geographic Information Systems. Undergraduate research is highly recommended for students who have an interest in attending graduate school in the future. Completing a directed research project with a faculty mentor has many benefits: it develops a student's critical thinking and writing abilities, signals to graduate school programs that a student is prepared for independent research of their own, and it can provide a student with financial support since many undergraduate research opportunities are paid. Completing a research project for credit (Geography 498R) can also count as an elective in the geography major.



University of Wisconsin  
Whitewater

College of Letters  
and Sciences

# Geography, Geology & Environmental Science Department Information

Upham Hall Room 120 | 262-472-1071

[www.edu/cls/departments/geography-geology-env-sci](http://www.edu/cls/departments/geography-geology-env-sci)

## Third Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Geography 370 GIS II: Applications and Data	3	Geology elective	3
Geology (204 or 214), 310, 317, 318, OR 319	3-4	Geology elective	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3	Gened CORE 390 World of Ideas	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
Minor course	3	Minor course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15-16</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

**Notes:** Elective course options include Geography 300 Soil Science, Geography 310 Geomorphology (Landforms), Geography 323 Water Resources, Geography 330 Biogeography, and Geography 423 Rivers and Floods, or any Geology course numbered 200 or higher.

**Opportunities:** An internship is not required for the geography major but can be a great opportunity for practical experience. An internship is an opportunity that provides students with hands-on experience in a potential career field, supervision and coaching from prospective employers, and the ability to learn professional norms and behaviors. In addition, completing an internship allows students to differentiate themselves in a competitive job market. Students should begin planning for an internship by the beginning of the junior year and can complete the internship in the junior or senior year.

## Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Units	Spring Semester	Units
Geography 400-Level Elective or Applied course	3	Geography 400 Capstone in Geography	1
English 370 OR PWP 371 OR PWP 372	3	Minor course	3
BA 300/400 Breadth Requirement course	3	Electives to total 120 (if needed)	8-12
Minor course	3		
Minor course	3		
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12-16</b>

**Notes:** All students must earn 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree and all requirements in this program can be completed in fewer than 120 credits. Most students have the opportunity to choose additional courses in the fourth year to expand skills, explore interests, or try something new.

**Opportunities:** LSINDP 399: Career Information in Letters and Sciences is a 1-credit course that focuses on career and graduate school opportunities; identifying skills, strengths, and work values; creating effective job search materials; developing a networking strategy; and planning for a successful post-graduation transition.

**Planning for Graduation:** Students are encouraged to apply for graduation one full semester prior to their intended graduation date. Information about commencement is on the Registrar's Office website (<http://www.uww.edu/registrar/graduation>) and the application for graduation is available to students in the WINS Student Information System.

*Curriculum effective date: Fall 2022*



University of Wisconsin  
**Whitewater**

College of Letters  
and Sciences