

# GEOGRAPHY

## Degree: B.A., Geography

Department of Geography (<https://cas.umw.edu/geography/>)

The Geography Department hosts two programs, a traditional degree program and a certificate program in Geographic Information Science. In the Bachelor of Arts degree program, students study the interactions between people and their environments, both human and natural. Geographers examine the places and regions resulting from such interactions and analyze the spatial characteristics of all manner of natural, cultural, economic, and political processes and relationships. The Geography program at Mary Washington has three areas of emphasis:

### Community, Development, and Culture

A focus on how people living in specific places and regions experience and affect social, cultural, economic, and environmental processes. Includes course work in planning and urban geography, local and international development, race and place, human-environment relationships, and regional geographies.

### Globalization

A focus on the geographies of globalization and its political, cultural, and economic dimensions. Includes course work in geopolitics, economic and cultural globalization, international development, migration, and regional geographies.

### Nature and Society

A focus on the physical and social processes that shape the natural environmental and affect human life. Includes course work in landforms, climatology, human-environment relationships and regional geographies.

All geography majors acquire spatial thinking skills by studying research methods appropriate for their area of emphasis. These include: geographic information systems (GIS), cartography, remote sensing, field methods, quantitative, and qualitative methods. Majors are also encouraged to engage in internships, study abroad programs, and undergraduate research.

The facilities for geographic studies at Mary Washington include well-equipped laboratories for the study and practice of physical geography, GIS, cartography, and remote sensing. The department hosts a chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon, the International Geography Honorary Society.

## Major Requirements

A minimum of 35 credits in Geography, Geographic Information Science, and related disciplines, including no more than two courses not designated GEOG or GISC.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Introductory Courses</b>		
GEOG 101 or GEOG 102	World Regional Geography Introduction to Human Geography	3
GEOG 110 & GEOG 111	Introduction to Weather and Climate and Landform Processes <sup>1</sup>	8
<b>Intermediate Courses</b>		
Select one course in geography (3 credits) chosen from GEOG 200 – GEOG 249 <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Research Methods</b>		
Select two of the following: <sup>3</sup>		6-8

GEOG 250	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and Cartography
GEOG 252	Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Geography
GEOG 340B	Remote Sensing and Air Photo Interpretation
GEOG 351A	Spatial Analysis
GEOG 355	Mobile Geographic Information Systems and Global Positioning Systems
GEOG 363	Qualitative Methods in Geography
GEOG 365	Field Methods
GISC 200	Introduction to GIS
GISC 351	Spatial Analysis
ANTH 298	Ethnography
SOCG 364	Quantitative Research Methods and Analysis
SOCG 365	Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis

### Advanced Courses

Select two courses from the following: <sup>2</sup> 6

GEOG 300-339	
GEOG 360	Geographic Study Abroad
GEOG 361	Grassroots Development in Guatemala
GEOG 410	Advanced Topics in Geography
GEOG 485	Readings in Geography
GEOG 491A	Individual Study in Geography
GEOG 494	Community Engaged Study in Geography

### Senior Seminar

GEOG 490 Senior Seminar in Geography <sup>4</sup> 3

### Electives

Select two additional courses, one of which must be at the 300- or 400-level. Any geography course or approved course in related fields fulfills this requirement. <sup>2</sup> 6-8

Total Credits 35-39

<sup>1</sup> EESC 112 Evolution of Earth can substitute for GEOG 111 Landform Processes.

<sup>2</sup> These will be chosen by the student in consultation with her/his academic advisor to reflect the student's area of emphasis.

<sup>3</sup> At least one of which must be either a GEOG or GISC course, and at least one of which must be at the 300 level.

<sup>4</sup> Usually taken during the Fall semester of the senior year, is the required capstone to the major.

Certificate in Geographic Information Science can be found by using this link (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/minors/geographic-information-science-certificate/>).

Master of Science in Geospatial Analysis Accelerated Degree Program – see Undergraduate-Graduate Program in Geography/MSG ( <https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/special-programs/undergraduate-graduate-program-geography-geospatial-analysis/>)

## General Education Requirements

The general education requirements for Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degrees (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-arts-bachelor-science-degrees/>) apply to all students who are seeking to earn an undergraduate B.A. or B.S. degree.

Students seeking a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree have a separate set of BLS general education requirements (<https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-liberal-studies-degrees/>).

## Electives

Elective courses are those that are not needed to fulfill a general education requirement or major program requirement but are chosen by the student to complete the 120 credits required for graduation with a B.A./B.S. degree or the BLS degree. These courses may be taken graded or pass/fail (or S/U in the case of physical education and 100-level dance). No student in a regular B.A./B.S. program may count more than 60 credits in a single discipline toward the 120 credits required for graduation.

**Total Credits Required for the Degree:** 120 credits

## Geography Department

Jacqueline Gallagher, Chair

Dawn S. Bowen and Brian Rizzo, Career Advisors

### Faculty

#### Professors

Dawn S. Bowen

Stephen P. Hanna

Farhang Rouhani

#### Associate Professors

Caitlin C. Finlayson

Jacqueline Gallagher

Marco Millones Mayer

Joseph W. Nicholas

Melina A. Patterson

Brian R. Rizzo

Ping Yin