

# GEOG - GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCES

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## **GEOG100 Introduction to Geography (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the broad field of geography as it is applicable to the general education student. The course presents the basic rationale of variations in human occupancy of the earth and stresses geographic concepts relevant to understanding world, regional and local issues.

## **GEOG110 The World Today: Global Perspectives (3 Credits)**

The most critical issue facing the world today is the sustainability of both human and physical systems in the 21st century. This class uses the context of regions of the world to explore the 21st century issues of climate change, development, politics, economy, and demography. Each region will be used to highlight aspects of sustainability.

## **GEOG130 Developing Countries (3 Credits)**

An introduction to the geographic characteristics of the development problems and prospects of developing countries. Spatial distribution of poverty, employment, migration and urban growth, agricultural productivity, rural development, policies and international trade. Portraits of selected developing countries.

## **GEOG140 Natural Disasters: Earthquakes, Floods, and Fires (3 Credits)**

Catastrophic Environmental Events (CCE) that are becoming more common in this time of global environmental change and it is essential that today's students be equipped with the knowledge and skills to be leaders as we, as a society, understand the upheaval that these CCEs are causing. Students will examine how CCEs shape human society and ecosystem from the interdisciplinary perspective afforded by the field of Geography. Students will use the latest geographic science concepts and techniques in exploring these events. Using satellite imagery they will gain a multi-scale perspective of the ecological and societal aspects of the events.

## **GEOG158 Special Topics in Study Abroad I (1-6 Credits)**

Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.

**Repeatable to:** 15 credits if content differs.

## **GEOG170 Mapping our Digital World (3 Credits)**

Introduction to technical methods used in gathering, analyzing, and mapping geospatial information for applications such as urban mobility, environmental monitoring, situational awareness, and disaster management. Topics include Geographic Information Systems (GIS), cartography, map projections, satellite and airborne remote sensing, the global positioning system (GPS), and introductory statistics and probability. The course is a gateway to more advanced technical classes in geospatial science.

## **GEOG198 Selected Topics in Geography (1-3 Credits)**

Readings and discussion on selected topics in the field of geography or GIS

**Repeatable to:** 12 credits if content differs.

## **GEOG201 Geography of Environmental Systems (3 Credits)**

A systematic introduction to the processes and associated forms of the atmosphere and earth's surfaces emphasizing the interaction between climatology, hydrology and geomorphology.

## **GEOG202 Introduction to Human Geography (3 Credits)**

Introduction to what geographers do and how they do it. Systematic study of issues regarding social and cultural systems from a global to a local scale. Looks at the distribution of these variables and answers the question 'Why here, and not there?'

## **GEOG211 Geography of Environmental Systems Laboratory (1 Credit)**

A laboratory course to accompany GEOG 201. Analysis of the components of the earth's energy balance using basic instrumentation; weather map interpretation; soil analysis; the application of map and air photo interpretation techniques to landform analysis.

**Prerequisite:** Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in GEOL120, GEOL100, or GEOG201.

## **GEOG212 Career Planning for Geographical Sciences, GIS, and ENSP Majors (1 Credit)**

Increase student knowledge of professional development opportunities in Geographical Sciences through classroom activities and invited speakers, and to build awareness of career development tools and strategies.

**Restriction:** Must be in one of the following programs (Geography; GEOG-GIS & Computer Cartography).

## **GEOG258 Special Topics in Study Abroad II (1-6 Credits)**

Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.

**Repeatable to:** 15 credits if content differs.

## **GEOG301 Advanced Geographical Environmental Systems (3 Credits)**

This course will provide the students with an overview of the key elements of physical geography, including biogeography (factors and processes that control the geographical distributions of plants and animals, climatology (processes associated with controlling variations in weather and climate), and geomorphology (factors and processes that control changes to the physical structure of the earth surface in relation to geological structures).

**Prerequisite:** GEOG201 and GEOG211.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG398B or GEOG301.

**Formerly:** GEOG398B.

## **GEOG306 Introduction to Quantitative Methods for the Geographical Environmental Sciences (3 Credits)**

Essentials in the quantitative analysis of spatial and other data, with a particular emphasis on statistics and programming. Topics include data display, data description and summary, statistical inference and significance tests, analysis of variance, correlation, regression, and some advanced concepts, such as matrix methods, principal component analysis, and spatial statistics. Students will develop expertise in data analysis using advanced statistical software.

**Credit Only Granted for:** BIOM301, BMGT230, CCJS200, ECON230, ECON321, EDMS451, GEOG306, GEOL351, GVPT422, JOUR405, PSYC200 or SOCY201.

## **GEOG310 Maryland and Adjacent Areas (3 Credits)**

The physical environment, natural resources, and population in relation to agriculture, industry, transport, and trade in the State of Maryland and adjacent areas.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG310 or GEOG321.

**Formerly:** GEOG321.

## **GEOG312 The United States and Canada (3 Credits)**

The two countries as functioning geographic systems with important differences and key linkages. An examination of the cultural, environmental, and economic components and their spatial variation. Attention to the role of regions in national economies.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG312 or GEOG320.

**Formerly:** GEOG320.

**GEOG328 Topics in Regional Geography (3 Credits)**

Selected topics in regional geography.

**Repeatable to:** 6 credits if content differs.

**GEOG330 As the World Turns: Society and Sustainability in a Time of Great Change (3 Credits)**

Cultural geography course on society and sustainability. Culture is the basic building block that is key to sustainability of societies. Course will cover sustainability of societies on different scales, examining local, regional, and worldwide issues. Sustainability will be examined as a key element of environmental sustainability. How societies adjust to rapid world change will be examined as a positive and/or negative factor in sustainability.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG330, GEOG360, or GEOG362.

**Formerly:** GEOG362.

**GEOG331 Introduction to Human Dimensions of Global Change (3 Credits)**

Introduction to global-scale interrelationship between human beings and the environment. The development of global issues including but not limited to the environment, food, energy, technology, population, and policy.

**Prerequisite:** ANTH220, ANTH260, GEOG202, or GEOG201; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG331 or GEOG361.

**Formerly:** GEOG361.

**GEOG332 Economic Geography (3 Credits)**

Principles of managing scarce resources in a world where everyone faces tradeoffs across both time and space. Focuses on the relationship between globalization processes and changing patterns of locational advantages, production, trade, population, socioeconomic and environmental grace and sustainability.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG203, GEOG303, or GEOG332.

**Formerly:** GEOG303.

**GEOG333 The Social Geography of Metropolitan Areas in Global Perspective (3 Credits)**

A socio-spatial approach to human interaction within the urban environments: ways people perceive, define, behave in, and structure world cities and metropolitan areas. Cultural and social differences define spatial patterns of social activities which further define distinctions in distribution and interaction of people and their social institutions.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG201 and GEOG202; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG456 or GEOG333.

**Formerly:** GEOG456.

**GEOG335 Population Geography (3 Credits)**

The spatial characteristics of population distribution and growth, migration, fertility and mortality from a global perspective. Basic population-environmental relationships; carrying capacity, density, and relationships to national development.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG201; and GEOG202.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG435 or GEOG335.

**Formerly:** GEOG435.

**GEOG340 Geomorphology (3 Credits)**

Survey of landform types and role of processes in their generation. Frequency of occurrence and implications for land utilization. Emphasis on coastal, fluvial, and glacial landforms in different environmental settings. Landform regions of Maryland.

**GEOG342 Introduction to Biogeography (3 Credits)**

The principles of biogeography, including the patterns, processes and distributions of living organisms from local to global scales, aspects of ecophysiology, population and community ecology and evolutionary biology. Spatial processes in the biosphere will be covered.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG201.

**Recommended:** GEOG211.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG342 or GEOG347.

**Formerly:** GEOG347.

**GEOG345 Introduction to Climatology (3 Credits)**

The geographic aspects of climate with emphasis on energy-moisture budgets, steady-state and non steady-state climatology, and climatic variations at both macro-and micro-scales.

**GEOG346 Cycles in the Earth System (3 Credits)**

The Earth System operates through some fundamental cycles such as water, energy, and the Carbon Cycle. This course will build on GEOL/ GEOG/AOSC123 starting with concept of feedbacks within the Earth System, global energy balance and the Greenhouse Effect. A brief introduction to the atmospheric and oceanic circulation will lead to the water cycle connecting the land, ocean, and atmosphere to the Earth System. Introduction to the Global carbon, nitrogen, and sulfur cycles will be followed by the concept of long-term climate regulation and short-term climate variability. The concepts of cycles, feedbacks, forcings, and responses in the Earth System will be applied to Global Warming and Ozone Depletion.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG123, AOSC123, GEOL123, or MATH140; or permission of CMNS-Geology department.

**Recommended:** PHYS171, PHYS141, PHYS161, or MATH141. Cross-listed with GEOL346.

**Credit Only Granted for:** AOSC346, GEOG346, or GEOL346.

**GEOG358 Special Topics in Study Abroad III (1-6 Credits)**

Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.

**Repeatable to:** 15 credits if content differs.

**GEOG372 Remote Sensing (3 Credits)**

Principles of remote sensing in relation to photographic, thermal infrared and radar imaging. Methods of obtaining quantitative information from remotely-sensed images. Interpretation of remotely-sensed images emphasizing the study of spatial and environmental relationships.

**GEOG373 Geographic Information Systems (3 Credits)**

Characteristics and organization of geographic data; creation and use of digital geospatial databases; metadata; spatial data models for thematic mapping and map analysis; use of geographic information system in society, government, and business. Practical training with use of advanced software and geographic databases.

**GEOG376 Introduction to Computer Programming for GIS (3 Credits)**

Introduces conceptual and practical aspects of programming for geographic applications. The main focus is on developing a solid understanding of basic programming techniques irrespective of the specific programming language including variables, looping, conditional statements, nesting, math, strings, and other concepts. In addition, students will develop a proficiency in applying these basic programming principles to manipulating spatial data sources within the Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

**Prerequisite:** Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in MATH120, MATH130, or MATH140; or must have completed MATH220. And GEOG373; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**GEOG384 Internship in Geography I (3 Credits)**

Supervised field training to provide career experience. Introduction to professional level activities, demands, opportunities. Placement at a public agency, non-profit organization, or private firm. Participation requires application to the internship advisor in preceding semester.  
**Prerequisite:** GEOG211, GEOG306, GEOG212, and GEOG201; and (ENGL393 or ENGL390).

**Restriction:** Must be in Geography program.

**GEOG385 Internship in Geography II (3 Credits)**

Supervised field training to provide career experience. Introduction to professional-level activities, demands, opportunities. Placement at a public agency, nonprofit organization, or private firm. Participation requires application to the internship advisor in preceding semester.  
**Prerequisite:** GEOG211, GEOG306, GEOG212, and GEOG201; and must have completed a Junior (Professional) English course.

**Restriction:** Must be in Geography program.

**GEOG396 Honors Research (3 Credits)**

First course in the departmental honors sequence. Student development of a potential research topic under the guidance of a faculty advisor, culminating in a written and oral presentation of a research proposal.  
**Restriction:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department; and senior standing or higher; and must be in Geography program.

**Formerly:** GEOG397.

**GEOG397 Honors Thesis (3 Credits)**

Second course in the departmental honors sequence. Student research under the auspices of a faculty advisor, culminating in a research paper to be defended orally before the geography honors committee.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG396.

**Restriction:** Must be in Geography program; and senior standing or higher.

**Formerly:** GEOG399.

**GEOG398 Special Topics in Geography (1-3 Credits)**

An introductory course dealing with special topics in geography.  
**Restriction:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Repeatable to:** 6 credits if content differs.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG298 or GEOG398.

**Formerly:** GEOG298.

**GEOG413 Migration: Latin America and the United States (3 Credits)**

Develops an understanding of the push and pull factors that have contributed to human mobility (migration) that has transformed the Americas. The class is divided in two parts: immigration and emigration from Latin American and Latin America migration to the United States. We will be interested in studying the migration shifts that have occurred in Latin America and the theories that help explain them. The themes that will be addressed are the history of migration with Latin America and to North America, the impact of this migration on both sending and receiving countries, and the various policy strategies and issues concerning migration.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG313; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Recommended:** HIST250; or USLT201; or LASC234.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG413, or GEOG498M.

**Formerly:** GEOG498M.

**GEOG415 Land Use, Climate Change, and Sustainability (3 Credits)**

The issues of climate change and land use change as two interlinked global and regional environmental issues and their implications for society and resource use are explored.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG123 or GEOG306; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Recommended:** GEOG340; or GEOG342; or GEOG331. Or GEOG201; and GEOG211.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG415 or GEOG498D.

**Formerly:** GEOG498D.

**GEOG416 Conceptualizing and Modeling Human-Environmental Interactions (3 Credits)**

Develops skills to carry out research that integrates environmental and economic aspects of sustainability by introducing extensively used quantitative tools for analyzing human-environmental interactions in the field of ecological economics. These include, e.g., index number calculations and decomposition analysis, Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC), environmental input-output analysis and life-cycle analysis, and multi-criteria decisions aid (MCDA). Students will need laptops to run models during class.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG306, STAT100, MATH107, or MATH111; and (GEOG201 and GEOG202); and (GEOG331 or GEOG330).

**Corequisite:** MATH130, MATH140, or MATH120; or MATH220.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG416 or GEOG498N.

**Formerly:** GEOG498N.

**GEOG417 Land Cover Characterization Using Multi-Spectral Remotely Sensed Data Sets (3 Credits)**

Students will be introduced to the image processing steps required for characterizing land cover extent and change. Key components of land cover characterization, including image interpretation, algorithm implementation, feature space selection, thematic output definition, and scripting will be discussed and implemented.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG372; and GEOG472; and GEOG306. Jointly offered with GEOG617. Credit only granted for: GEOG498R; GEOG788R; GEOG417; GEOG617.

**Formerly:** GEOG498R.

**GEOG418 Field and Laboratory Techniques in Environmental Science (1-3 Credits)**

Lecture and laboratory learning each week. A variable credit course that introduces field and laboratory analyses in environmental science. Individual learning contract are developed with instructor.

**Restriction:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG418 or GEOG448.

**Formerly:** GEOG448.

**GEOG421 Changing Geographies of China (3 Credits)**

Covers physical geography, history, and economic and political systems of the world's most populous country. The major focus will be on geographical issues in China's contemporary development: agriculture, population, urbanization, resource and energy, and environment.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG202; and GEOG201; and (GEOG435, GEOG333, or GEOG332).

**Recommended:** GEOG130; or GEOG140.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG328B or GEOG421.

**Formerly:** GEOG328B.

**GEOG422 Changing Geographies of Sub-Saharan Africa (3 Credits)**

Students will develop an understanding of the geographic contexts of Sub-Saharan Africa, including an overview of the physical, bioclimatic, historical, cultural, political, demographic, health and economic geographies of Sub-Saharan Africa. Students will fill in the map of Africa by studying the spatial distribution within each of these geographic domains. In addition to an overview of geography South of the Sahara, the Congo will be taken as a more intensive case study through additional readings, lectures and discussions.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG201; and GEOG202; and (GEOG335 or GEOG333).

**Recommended:** GEOG130 or GEOG110.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG328C, GEOG422.

**Formerly:** GEOG328C.

**GEOG423 Latin America (3 Credits)**

A geography of Latin America and the Caribbean in the contemporary world: political and cultural regions, population and natural resource distribution, economic and social development, poverty, crime, urbanization, migration trends, and natural disasters.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG201 and GEOG202; and (GEOG332, GEOG435, or GEOG333).

**Recommended:** GEOG130 and GEOG110.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG313 or GEOG423.

**Formerly:** GEOG313.

**GEOG431 Culture and Natural Resource Management (3 Credits)**

Basic issues concerning the natural history of humans from the perspective of the geographer. Basic components of selected behavioral and natural systems, their evolution and adaptation, and survival strategies.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG421 or GEOG431.

**Formerly:** GEOG421.

**GEOG432 Spatial Econometrics (3 Credits)**

An introduction to modern econometric techniques in general and spatial econometrics in particular, using the popular open source statistical computer language R. A focus on using statistical computing to produce analytical reports for real-world applications, research papers, and dissertations.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG201; and GEOG202; and GEOG306; and GEOG332. Jointly offered with GEOG732. Credit only granted for: GEOG498E, GEOG432, GEOG788E, GEOG732.

**Formerly:** GEOG498E.

**GEOG433 Land Use and Urban Economics (3 Credits)**

While populations in developed countries have already concentrated in cities, recent estimates suggest that there will be several billion new urban dwellers mainly in developing countries during the first three decades of this century. This class will equip you to answer the following questions by introducing space into economic models and studying the location of economic activities: Why are cities so attractive to majority of population and industrial/commercial activities? What determines the land-use intensity and patterns of a city? Which policies can modify the shape of a city?

**Prerequisite:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department. Or GEOG201 and GEOG202; and (GEOG333 or GEOG332).

**GEOG437 Political Geography (3 Credits)**

Geographical factors in the national power and international relations; an analysis of the role of geopolitics and geostrategy, with special reference to the current world scene.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG423 or GEOG437.

**Formerly:** GEOG423.

**GEOG438 Seminar in Human Geography (3 Credits)**

Selected topics in human geography.

**Recommended:** GEOG201; or GEOG211.

**Restriction:** Permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Repeatable to:** 6 credits if content differs.

**GEOG441 The Coastal Ocean (3 Credits)**

Introduction to coastal oceanography, focusing on the physical, biological, and geological aspects of ocean areas on the inner continental shelves. Wave, currents, and tidal dynamics of bays, open coast, estuaries, and deltas. Sedimentary environments of major coastal types. Ecology and biogeochemical relationships, including benthic and planktonic characteristics. Coastal evolution with sea level rise. Human impacts: eutrophication, modification of sedimentation. The coastal future: rising sea level, hypoxia, and increased storminess.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG140; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG441 or GEOG498C.

**Formerly:** GEOG498C.

**GEOG442 Biogeography and Environmental Change (3 Credits)**

Biogeographical topics of global significance, including a consideration of measurement techniques, and both descriptive and mechanistic modeling. Topics may include: scale in biogeography, biodiversity, carbon geography, climate and vegetation, interannual variability in the biosphere, land cover, global biospheric responses to climate change, NASA's Mission to Planet Earth and Earth Observation System. The class focuses on both natural and anthropogenic controls, impacts of biogeography on climate and ecosystem services and different methods in biogeography.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG301. And GEOG201 and GEOG211; or permission of BSOS-Geography department. Jointly offered with GEOG642.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG642, GEOG442, GEOG447, or GEOG484.

**Formerly:** GEOG447.

**GEOG458 Special Topics in Study Abroad IV (1-6 Credits)**

Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.

**Repeatable to:** 15 credits if content differs.

**GEOG461 Machine Learning for Computational Earth Observation Science (CEOS) (3 Credits)**

Provides an introduction to machine learning methods and models with an emphasis on Earth observation. Topics will include supervised (decision trees, random forest, neural networks, support vector machine, Gaussian process and ensemble techniques), and unsupervised techniques (clustering/segmentation, dimension reduction, multi-dimensional data visualization). The course will highlight the state-of-the-art deep learning models; object-based versus pixel-based image classification; how to deal with missing data and non-uniform coverage of data; and large scale land cover land use mapping from heterogeneous satellite data. Practical part will include satellite image classification by applying classification models and biophysical parameters retrieval by applying regression models.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG371.



**GEOG472 Remote Sensing: Digital Processing and Analysis (3 Credits)**

Digital image processing and analysis applied to satellite and aircraft land remote sensing data. Consideration is given to preprocessing steps including calibration and geo registration. Analysis methods include digital image exploration, feature extraction thematic classification, change detection, and biophysical characterization. One or more application examples may be reviewed.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG372 and GEOG306; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG472 or GEOG480.

**Formerly:** GEOG480.

**GEOG473 Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis (3 Credits)**

Analytical uses of geographic information systems; data models for building geographic data bases; types of geographic data and spatial problems; practical experience using advanced software for thematic domains such as terrain analysis, land suitability modeling, demographic analysis, and transportation studies.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG306 and GEOG373; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG473 or GEOG482.

**Formerly:** GEOG482.

**GEOG475 Computer Cartography (3 Credits)**

An overview of the basic concepts and techniques that underlie digital map making and the broader field of geographic visualization for intermediate GIS users. This includes the use of color, map symbolization, map layout, and also the contribution to geographic visualization from the fields of scientific visualization, information visualization, and cognition. Fundamentals of dynamic map design and web mapping will be introduced through the use of animated and interactive maps.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG373 and GEOG306.

**Credit Only Granted for:** GEOG471 or GEOG475.

**Formerly:** GEOG471.

**GEOG476 Object-Oriented Computer Programming for GIS (3 Credits)**

Expands on conceptual and practical aspects of programming for geographic applications. The main focus of this course is to provide students more advanced programming in object oriented programming languages (i.e. Python). In addition, students will develop a proficiency in applying these advanced programming principles to manipulating spatial data sources within the Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

**Prerequisite:** GEOG373 and GEOG376; or permission of BSOS-Geography department. And must have completed MATH220; or must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in MATH120, MATH130, or MATH140.

**Restriction:** Must be in Geography program; or must be in GIS minor.

**GEOG477 Mobile GIS Development (3 Credits)**

Designed as an introduction to mobile GIS, to the programming concepts underlying mobile GIS development, and more importantly, to the design and implement of a mobile GIS application. Covers how to develop, test, and publish mobile GIS native apps working across two mobile platforms: Android and iOS. This course will also try to leverage the capabilities of JavaScript, Swift, Google maps, ArcGIS Server and runtime SDK to developing and publishing mobile GIS web apps.

**Prerequisite:** GEOG306, GEOG373, and GEOG376; and (GEOG473, GEOG475, or GEOG476). And MATH140 or MATH120; or must have completed MATH220.

**Restriction:** Must be in a major within the BSOS-Geography department; or permission of BSOS-Geography department.

**Credit Only Granted for:** Geog477 or Geog498V.

**Formerly:** Geog498V.

**GEOG498 Topical Investigations (1-3 Credits)**

Independent study under individual guidance.

**Prerequisite:** Restricted to advanced undergraduate students; and 24 credits in GEOG courses. Or restricted to graduate students.

**Repeatable to:** 6 credits if content differs.