

MAJOR IN GEOGRAPHY

The Geography major is housed in the Department of Anthropology and Geography. Through coursework and internship opportunities, majors are provided with a broad background in geographic thinking. The major emphasizes interactions between humans and the environment in an era of rapid global change. Critical study of diverse relationships between space, place, humans, built and natural environments allows students to interpret geographic features, patterns and processes.

The Geography curriculum also concentrates specifically on mountain ecosystems and human-environment interactions. Coursework takes advantage of faculty expertise in these areas of study, some of which are specific to the state of Colorado. Geography faculty use a wide range of research methods, including geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, spatial modeling, spatial statistics, participatory methods and ethnography to address applied research questions in Colorado, the Rocky Mountains, Patagonia, Southeast Asia, Latin America, Melanesia, and Africa. Undergraduate majors can expect to gain knowledge of and/or participate in faculty research related to:

1. Climate change implications for society and ecosystems
2. Land-use and land-cover change
3. Critical human geography
4. Critical Health geographies
5. Biogeography
6. Livelihood systems
7. Conservation
8. Cultural geography
9. Urban geography
10. Economic geography
11. Political/electoral geography
12. Geography of virtual worlds

The Geography major is built on the core values the Department of Anthropology and Geography promotes. These values emphasize

experiential training, primary research, public engagement, and education.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate:

1. Mastery of the unifying themes of human and physical geography, as well as knowledge of the diverse conceptual and methodological approaches present in the discipline of geography.
2. The ability to identify, describe, and interpret spatial patterns and structures.
3. A critical understanding of relationships between humans and the environment, with a specific focus on mountain systems and local cultures.
4. An ability to present geographic concepts, approaches, methodologies, and applications in written, oral, cartographic, and other visual forms.
5. An understanding of the discipline's relevance to everyday life.
6. An ability to communicate effectively and respectfully, including critical thinking and discussion skills.

Potential Occupations:

Like many other majors in Liberal Arts, the Geography major provides students with a broad academic background suitable for a variety of jobs in the public and private sectors. Geography majors are trained to think independently and critically, communicate effectively, and function in a multicultural world. Careers for graduates vary depending upon your focus in Geography. Geographers often work in international development, Foreign Service, education, conservation/natural resource management, urban and regional planning, data analysis, data management, GIS analyst, marketing, and business. Graduates who go on to advanced studies can pursue academic careers in geography.

Requirements Effective Fall 2022

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
ANTH 200	Cultures and the Global System (GT-SS3)	1C	3
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
GR 100	Introduction to Geography (GT-SS2)	3C	3
GR 110	Introduction to Physical Geography (GT-SC2)	3A	3
GR 111	Introduction to Physical Geography Lab (GT-SC1)	3A	1
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)		3B	6
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historicalperspectives)		3D	3
Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#quantitativereasoning)		1B	3
Electives			5
Total Credits			30

Sophomore

GR 220	Mapping, Cartography, and Spatial Thinking		3
Select a minimum of 6 credits in Human Geography from the following not taken in another category:			6

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GR 102	Geography of Europe and the Americas (GT-SS2)	1C	
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)	3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health		
GR 330	Urban Geography		
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems		
GR 345	Geography of Hazards		
Select a minimum of 6 credits in Physical Geography from the following not taken in another category:			6
GR 210/ESS 210	Physical Geography		
GR 303	Mountain Geography		
GR 348	Biogeography		
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Geospatial Methods from the following not taken in another category:			3
ANTH 365	Quantifying Anthropology		
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists		
GR 315	Quantitative Geographical Methods		
GR 323/NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation		
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		3A	3
Electives			9
Total Credits			30
Junior			
ANTH 400/GR 400	History of Theory-Anthropology and Geography	4B	3
GR 320	Cultural Geography		3
Select a minimum of 6 credits in following Human Geography courses not taken in another category:			6
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)	3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health		
GR 330	Urban Geography		
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems		
GR 345	Geography of Hazards		
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities		
GR 418	Development Geographies	4A	
GR 425A	Special Topics: Human Geography		
GR 440/POLS 440	Political Geography		
Select a minimum of 6 credits in following Physical Geography courses not taken in another category:			6
GR 204/WR 204	Sustainable Watersheds (GT-SC2)	3A	
GR 210/ESS 210	Physical Geography		
GR 303	Mountain Geography		
GR 348	Biogeography		
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications		
GR 425C	Special Topics: Physical Geography		
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change		
Select a minimum of 6 credits in following Geospatial Methods courses not taken in another category:			6
ANTH 365	Quantifying Anthropology		
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists		
GR 315	Quantitative Geographical Methods		
GR 323/NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation		
GR 420	Spatial Analysis with GIS		
GR 425B	Special Topics: Geospatial Geography		
GR 430 ¹	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing		
Advanced Writing (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing)		2	3

Electives			3
	Total Credits		30
Senior			
GR 493	Capstone Seminar	4C	1
Students must take GR 493 concurrently with one of the 4A courses listed in the selection below if not previously taken:		4A	3
GR 303	Mountain Geography	4A	
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications	4A	
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities	4A	
GR 418	Development Geographies	4A	
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing	4A	
Select a minimum of 9 credits from one of the following options not taken in another category:			9
GR 102	Geography of Europe and the Americas (GT-SS2)	1C	
GR 210/ESS 210	Physical Geography		
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)	3C	
GR 217	Human-Environment Geographies (GT-SS2)	3C	
GR 220	Mapping, Cartography, and Spatial Thinking		
GR 303	Mountain Geography		
GR 305	Geography of Global Health		
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists		
GR 323/NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation		
GR 330	Urban Geography		
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems		
GR 345	Geography of Hazards		
GR 348	Biogeography		
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications		
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities		
GR 418	Development Geographies		
GR 420	Spatial Analysis with GIS	4A	
GR 425A	Special Topics: Human Geography		
GR 425B	Special Topics: Geospatial Geography		
GR 425C	Special Topics: Physical Geography		
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing		
GR 440/POLS 440	Political Geography		
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change		
GR 592	Special Topics in Geography		
Electives ²			17
	Total Credits		30
	Program Total Credits:		120

¹ GR 431 may also fulfill this requirement, but GR 431 must be taken concurrently with GR 430.

² Select enough elective credits to bring the program total to a minimum of 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).

Major Completion Map

Freshman

Semester 1		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)			1A	3
GR 100	Introduction to Geography (GT-SS2)	X		3C	3
GR 110	Introduction to Physical Geography (GT-SC2)			3A	3

GR 111	Introduction to Physical Geography Lab (GT-SC1)	X		3A	1
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)				3B	3
Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#quantitative-reasoning)				1B	3
Total Credits					16
Semester 2		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
ANTH 200	Cultures and the Global System (GT-SS3)	X		1C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)				3B	3
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)				3D	3
Electives					5
AUC 1B (Quantitative Reasoning) and CO 150 must be completed by the end of Semester 2.					
Total Credits					14
Sophomore					
Semester 3		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
GR 220	Mapping, Cartography, and Spatial Thinking	X			3
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Human Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 102	Geography of Europe and the Americas (GT-SS2)			1C	
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health				
GR 330	Urban Geography				
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems				
GR 345	Geography of Hazards				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Physical Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 210/ ESS 210	Physical Geography				
GR 303	Mountain Geography				
GR 348	Biogeography				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Geospatial Methods from the following not taken in another category:					3
ANTH 365	Quantifying Anthropology				
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists				
GR 315	Quantitative Geographical Methods				
GR 323/ NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation				
Electives					3
Total Credits					15
Semester 4		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Human Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 102	Geography of Europe and the Americas (GT-SS2)			1C	
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health				
GR 330	Urban Geography				
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems				
GR 345	Geography of Hazards				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Physical Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3

GR 210/ ESS 210	Physical Geography				
GR 303	Mountain Geography				
GR 348	Biogeography				
Biological & Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)				3A	3
Electives					6
Total Credits					15
Junior					
Semester 5					
GR 320	Cultural Geography	Critical			Credits
		X			3
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Human Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health				
GR 330	Urban Geography				
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems				
GR 345	Geography of Hazards				
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities				
GR 418	Development Geographies			4A	
GR 425A	Special Topics: Human Geography				
GR 440/ POLS 440	Political Geography				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Physical Geography not taken in another category:					3
GR 204/ WR 204	Sustainable Watersheds (GT-SC2)			3A	
GR 210/ ESS 210	Physical Geography				
GR 303	Mountain Geography				
GR 348	Biogeography				
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications				
GR 425C	Special Topics: Physical Geography				
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Geospatial Methods from the following not taken in another category:					3
ANTH 365	Quantifying Anthropology				
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists				
GR 315	Quantitative Geographical Methods				
GR 323/ NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation				
GR 420	Spatial Analysis with GIS				
GR 425B	Special Topics: Geospatial Geography				
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing				
Electives					3
Total Credits					15
Semester 6					
GR 400/ ANTH 400	History of Theory-Anthropology and Geography	Critical			Credits
		X		4B	3
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Human Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 305	Geography of Global Health				
GR 330	Urban Geography				

GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems				
GR 345	Geography of Hazards				
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities				
GR 418	Development Geographies			4A	
GR 425A	Special Topics: Human Geography				
GR 440/ POLS 440	Political Geography				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Physical Geography from the following not taken in another category:					3
GR 204/ WR 204	Sustainable Watersheds (GT-SC2)			3A	
GR 210/ ESS 210	Physical Geography				
GR 303	Mountain Geography				
GR 348	Biogeography				
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications				
GR 425C	Special Topics: Physical Geography				
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change				
Select a minimum of 3 credits in Geospatial Methods from the following not taken in another category:					3
ANTH 365	Quantifying Anthropology				
GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists				
GR 315	Quantitative Geographical Methods				
GR 323/ NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation				
GR 420	Spatial Analysis with GIS				
GR 425B	Special Topics: Geospatial Geography				
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing				
Advanced Writing (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#advanced-writing)					2
Total Credits					15
Senior					
Semester 7					
GR 493	Capstone Seminar	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
		X		4C	1
Students must take GR 493 concurrently with one of the 4A classes listed below if not previously taken:					3
GR 303	Mountain Geography			4A	
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications			4A	
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities			4A	
GR 418	Development Geographies			4A	
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing			4A	
Electives					11
Total Credits					15
Semester 8					
Select 9 credits from the following not taken in another category:					9
GR 102	Geography of Europe and the Americas (GT-SS2)			1C	
GR 210/ ESS 210	Physical Geography				
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 217	Human-Environment Geographies (GT-SS2)			3C	
GR 220	Mapping, Cartography, and Spatial Thinking				
GR 303	Mountain Geography				
GR 305	Geography of Global Health				

GR 311	GIS for Social Scientists		
GR 323/ NR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation		
GR 330	Urban Geography		
GR 331	Geography of Farming Systems		
GR 345	Geography of Hazards		
GR 348	Biogeography		
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications		
GR 415	The Geography of Commodities		
GR 418	Development Geographies	4A	
GR 420	Spatial Analysis with GIS		
GR 425A	Special Topics: Human Geography		
GR 425B	Special Topics: Geospatial Geography		
GR 425C	Special Topics: Physical Geography		
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing		
GR 440/ POLS 440	Political Geography		
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change		
GR 592	Special Topics in Geography		
Electives		X	6
The benchmark courses for the 8th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.		X	
Total Credits			15
Program Total Credits:			120