

Geography (GEOG)

Courses required for the first year: None
Courses recommended for the first year: GEOG-105, GEOG-106, GEOG-120, GEOG-123, GEOG-130
Contact: Department Chair: Dr. Chris Strunk (christopherstrunk@augustana.edu)

The Major in Geography

Geography is probably not what you think it is! We don't just study maps and memorize places on a globe. Geography is an exciting and interdisciplinary field of study with pathways to many different careers. Geography is a "bridge" discipline that overlaps the traditional division between the natural and the social sciences. Some courses in the department have a natural science orientation (PN) while others have a social science orientation (PS and may have a D or G designation).

If you are concerned about environmental and global issues - geography could be a great place for you!

Geography is exciting because:

- Geography students work and study outdoors. Courses consistently combine classroom learning with opportunities to see, experience and apply what they're learning in the world whether it's a 90-minute field experience or a study away trip.
- Geography is interdisciplinary, which means students have an opportunity to study history, geology, anthropology, ecology, economics, and other fields using specific geographic methods to ask and answer questions.
- Geographers are helping to solve the problems of our time — geography coursework helps students to see connections, have global perspectives, and solve problems.
- Students have a lot of choice in determining the focus of their projects and independent research programs, which gives them a chance to dive deeper into subjects they are personally passionate about.

Required Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
GEOG-105 or	Weather, Climate, and Society	PN	--	SP	4
GEOG-106	Landforms & Landscape Dynamics	PN		J or SP	4
GEOG-120 or	Human Geography of Global Issues	PS, G	--	F or SP	4
GEOG-130	Geography of World Regions	PS, G		SP	4
GEOG-230 or	Water and Environmental Justice (Louisiana Gulf Coast)	D	--	J	4
GEOG-303 or	Natural Resource Management	None		F	4
GEOG-331 or	Geography of Latin America	G		SP (alt. years)	4
GEOG-332	Geography of the Arctic	G		SP (alt. years)	4
GEOG-270	Geographic Perspectives	None	--	SP	2
GEOG-273 or GEOG-274	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	None	--	F, SP or SU	4
GEOG-372	Digital Cartography and Design	None	--	SP	4
GEOG-472	Seminar on Geographic Research I	None	GEOG-270	SP	2
GEOG-473	Seminar on Geographic Research II	None	GEOG-472	F	2

Required Supporting Courses

Take 8 credits of electives from one of three tracks (GIS and Technology, Urban and Cultural Geography, Physical and Environmental Geography) that are different from the required courses. See geography advisor for additional details.

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
GIS & Technology Track					
GIST-375	Drone Mapping and Photogrammetry	None	GEOG-273 or GEOG-274	F	4
GIST-475	Advanced GIS	None	GEOG273 or GEOG274	SP	4
Urban & Cultural Geography Track					
GEOG-123	Intro to Urban Studies	D	--	F	4
GEOG-230	Regional Immersion Field Experience	D	--	J	4
GEOG-323	Urban Planning	G	GEOG-120, GEOG-123, or ENVR101	SP	4
GEOG-331	Geography of Latin America	G	--	SP (alt. years)	4
GEOG-332	Geography of the Arctic	G	--	F or SP (alt. years)	4
Environmental Geography Track					
GEOG-303	Natural Resource Management	None	--	F	4
GEOG-306	Soil Science	None	--	F	4
GEOL-309	Geomorphology	None	--	F or SP (alt. years)	4

The Minor in Geography

20 credits Geography can be a complement to many career fields and majors/programs at Augustana. Minors are encouraged to select course options that complement their major(s) and provide additional skills or knowledge to help them advance in their chosen career path.

Required Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
GEOG-105 or GEOG-106	Weather, Climate, and Society	PN	--	SP	4
GEOG-106	Landforms & Landscape Dynamics	PN		J or SP	4
GEOG-120 or GEOG-130	Human Geography of Global Issues	PS, G	--	F or SP	4
GEOG-130	Geography of World Regions	PS, G		SP	4
GEOG-230 or GEOG-303 or GEOG-331 or GEOG-332	Regional Immersion field trip	D	--	J	4
GEOG-303 or GEOG-331 or GEOG-332	Natural Resource Management	None		F	4
GEOG-331 or GEOG-332	Geography of Latin America	G		SP (alt. years)	4
GEOG-332	Geography of the Arctic	G		SP (alt. years)	4
GEOG-270	Geographic Perspectives	None	--	SP	2
GEOG-273 or GEOG-274	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	None	--	F, SP or SU	4
GEOG-472	Seminar in Geographic Research I	GEOG-270	--	SP	2

*Fall, J term, Spring, Summer; see [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates

Updated May 2025