

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Geography is a science that focuses on the spatial analysis of human/physical patterns and processes. Geographers attempt to identify the factors affecting the distribution of people and their activities on the surface of the earth and to provide meaningful solutions to problems faced by societies. This discipline is an ideal major for the liberal arts student, providing exposure to the concepts and techniques utilized in investigating environmental issues, socioeconomic problems, and planning policies.

The Geography program offers a distinctive curriculum that focuses on the study of human-environmental interaction and is premised upon a model of scientific education that integrates the natural/physical and social sciences. The program takes a place-based approach to this topic, seeking to understand in a holistic manner how cultural, political, economic, natural, and physical processes combine and interact to shape and re-shape landscapes, cities, regions, and nations through time.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clasadvising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Fred Chambers

frederick.chambers@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 3421

303-315-7553

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** semester hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Geography Urban Studies and Planning B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 39 GEOG, GEOL or ENVS credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 24 upper division (3000-level and above) GEOG credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all major courses taken at CU Denver and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. All graded attempts in required and elective courses are calculated in the major GPA. Students cannot complete major or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 15 GEOG, GEOL or ENVS credit hours with CU Denver faculty.
5. Only 3 credits of Travel Study may be counted toward graduation requirements.
6. Undergraduate students may count up to 6 credit hours of independent study or internship (any combination of GEOG 3840, 4840, 4880, or 3939) towards elective credit in the major as approved by the undergraduate coordinator. Students may not receive more than 3 credit hours per independent study section. No more than 3 credit hours of independent study may be taken with the same instructor or in the same term.

LYNX CONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver Lynx Connect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the Lynx Connect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
GEOG Major Requirements	39	24 semester hours must be upper-division
GEOG Required Courses		
GEOG 1202 Introduction to Physical Geography or ENVS 1044 & 1045 Introduction to Environmental Sciences with Lab	3 - 4	Course can count toward CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Sciences (depending on whether lab or non-lab is completed)
GEOG 1102 World Regions Global Context or GEOG 1302 Introduction to Human Geography	3	GEOG 1102 can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Science
GEOG 1602 Urban Studies and Planning	3	GEOG 1602 can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Science
GEOG 2080 Introduction to Mapping and Map Analysis	3	
GEOG 3232 Weather and Climate	3	*Prerequisite: GEOG 1202 or ENVS 1042 or ENVS 1044 and 1045
GEOG 3412 Globalization and Regional Development	3	
GEOG 4640 Urban Geography: Denver and the U.S.	3	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in GEOG 1602
GEOG 4680 Urban Sustainability: Perspectives and Practice	3	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in ENVS 1342 or GEOG 1602
Complete four GEOG/URPL Urban Planning Electives	12	See department for courses. Check individual courses for prerequisites.
Complete one Techniques for Urban Analysis Course	3	See department for courses. GEOG 4080 Introduction to GIS is strongly recommended. Check individual courses for prerequisites.
Estimated General Electives	12 - 32	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	45 semester hours must be upper-division

SUGGESTED ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *suggested* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Academic advisors recommend students tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit) and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year	Term	Course	CRS	Year	Term	Course	CRS
Year One	Fall	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	Year One	Spring	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
		CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 2830 <i>recommended</i>	3			CU Denver Core Humanities	3
		GEOG 1202 ^c or ENVS 1044 & 1045 ^c	3-4			GEOG 1102 ^c or 1302	3
		CU Denver Core Arts / First-Year Seminar	3			CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
		General Elective	3			General Elective	3
		Total Credit Hours	15-16			Total Credit Hours	16
Year Two	Fall	GEOG 1602 ^c	3	Year Two	Spring	GEOG 3232 ^{pe}	3
		GEOG 2080	3			CLAS Bio/Phys Science with lab	4
		CLAS Communicative Skills	3			CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
		CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3			CLAS Behavioral Science	3
		CLAS Humanities	3			General Elective	3
		Total Credit Hours	15			Total Credit Hours	16
Year Three	Fall	GEOG 3412	3	Year Three	Spring	GEOG 4680	3
		GEOG 4640	3			GEOG Urban Planning Course	3
		CLAS Second Language Semester I	5			CLAS Second Language Semester II	5
		CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3			General Elective	3
		Total Credit Hours	14			Total Credit Hours	14
Year Four	Fall	GEOG Urban Planning Course	3	Year Four	Spring	GEOG Urban Planning Course	3
		GEOG Techniques for Urban Analysis Course	3			GEOG Urban Planning Course	3
		General Upper-Division Elective	3			General Upper-Division Elective	3
		General Upper-Division Elective	3			General Upper-Division Elective	3
		General Upper-Division Elective	3			General Elective	3
		Total Credit Hours	15			Total Credit Hours	15