

# Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/13/24 10:47 am

Viewing: **GEOGBS ~~GEOGBA~~ : Geography, Bachelor of Science Arts**

Last approved: 08/27/24 10:33 am

Last edit: 11/14/24 7:58 pm

Changes proposed by: nrgreen

Catalog Pages Using this Program

- [Geography B.A.](#)
- [Geography B.A. with Cartography/Remote Sensing GIS Concentration](#)

Submitter:	User ID:	nrgreen	Phone:
575-3429			
Program Status	Active		
Academic Level	Undergraduate		
Type of proposal	Major/Field of Study		
Select a reason for this modification			
Reconfiguring an Existing Degree--(LON)			
Are you adding a concentration?			
No			
Are you adding or modifying a track?			
No			
Are you adding or modifying a focused study?			
No			
Effective Catalog Year	Fall 2025		
College/School Code			
Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC)			
Department Code			
Department of Geosciences (GEOS)			

## In Workflow

1. ARSC Dean Initial
2. Provost Initial
3. Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment
4. Registrar Initial
5. Institutional Research
6. GEOS Chair
7. ARSC Curriculum Committee
8. ARSC Dean
9. Global Campus
10. Provost Review
11. Undergraduate Council
12. Faculty Senate
13. Provost Final
14. Provost's Office-- Documentation sent to System Office
15. Higher Learning Commission
16. Board of Trustees
17. ADHE Final
18. Provost's Office-- Notification of Approval
19. Registrar Final
20. Catalog Editor Final

## Approval Path

1. 09/13/24 11:45 am  
Christopher Schulte

Program Code GEOGBS **GEOGBA**  
 Degree Bachelor of Science **Arts**  
 CIP Code

- (cschulte):  
 Approved for ARSC  
 Dean Initial
2. 09/13/24 11:50 am  
 Jim Gigantino  
 (jgiganti): Approved  
 for Provost Initial
  3. 10/29/24 11:29 am  
 Lisa Kulczak  
 (lkulcza): Approved  
 for Director of  
 Curriculum Review  
 and Program  
 Assessment
  4. 10/30/24 2:07 pm  
 Gina Daugherty  
 (gdaugher):  
 Approved for  
 Registrar Initial
  5. 10/31/24 10:51 am  
 Doug Miles  
 (dmiles): Approved  
 for Institutional  
 Research
  6. 10/31/24 12:29 pm  
 Jason Tullis (jatullis):  
 Approved for GEOS  
 Chair
  7. 11/06/24 3:27 pm  
 Nik Rowan  
 (nrgreen): Approved  
 for ARSC Curriculum  
 Committee
  8. 11/07/24 8:24 am  
 Christopher Schulte  
 (cschulte):  
 Approved for ARSC  
 Dean
  9. 11/07/24 8:26 am  
 Suzanne Kenner

(skenner): Approved  
for Global Campus

10. 11/07/24 8:49 am

Jim Gigantino

(jgiganti): Approved  
for Provost Review

## History

1. Aug 15, 2014 by  
Leepfrog  
Administrator  
(clhelp)
2. Jan 23, 2015 by  
Fiona Davidson  
(fdavidso)
3. Apr 1, 2015 by  
Charlie Alison  
(calison)
4. May 23, 2018 by  
Charlie Alison  
(calison)
5. Aug 27, 2024 by Nik  
Rowan (nrgreen)

30.4401 - Geography and Environmental Studies.

Program Title

Geography, Bachelor of Science Arts

Program Delivery

Method

On Campus

Is this program interdisciplinary between two or more colleges or schools?

No

Do the proposed changes impact any specific course(s) from another college or school?

No

What are the total        120  
hours needed to  
complete the  
program?

## Program Requirements and Description

### Requirements

In addition to the

## ~~Requirements for a Major in Geography: University of Arkansas Core requirements and the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences Graduation Requirements~~ for a Bachelor of Science in Geography

The following credit hour requirements, ~~the following course requirements~~ must be met (see Degree Completion Program Policy for additional information). ~~met:~~

State minimum core requirements may vary by individual, based on placement and previous course credit earned.

Once all core requirements are met, students may substitute with general electives in consultation with their academic advisor. **Bolded** ~~Bolded~~ courses from the course list ~~the list~~ below may be applied to portions of the State Minimum Core requirements. ~~University/state minimum core requirements.~~

<u>State Minimum Core</u>		<u>35</u>
<u>Choose 1:</u>		<u>3</u>
<b><u>GEOG 11103</u></b>	Human Geography (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1113)	
<b><u>GEOG 21003</u></b>	World Regional Geography (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 2103)	
<u>Choose 1:</u>		<u>4</u>
<b><u>GEOL 11103</u></b>	Physical Geology (ACTS Equivalency = GEOL 1114 Lecture)	
<b>&amp; <u>GEOL 11101</u></b>	and Physical Geology Laboratory (ACTS Equivalency = GEOL 1114 Lab)	
<b><u>GEOL 11203</u></b>	Earth Science (ACTS Equivalency = GEOL 1124 Lecture)	
<b>&amp; <u>GEOL 11201</u></b>	and Earth Science Laboratory (ACTS Equivalency = GEOL 1124 Lab)	
<del>Six hours in a single world language at the 1013-Elementary II level or higher.<sup>-1</sup></del>		<del>6</del>
<del><u>GEOS 30203</u></del>	<del>Introduction to Cartography</del>	<del>3</del>
<u><b>GEOS 11504</b></u>	<u><b>Introduction to Geology for Science Majors</b></u>	
<u>Choose 1:</u>		<u>3</u>
<u><b>GEOS 30003</b></u>	<u>Course GEOS 30003 Not Found</u>	
<u><b>GEOS 36703</b></u>	<u>Environmental Field Methods</u>	
<u><b>GEOS 35403</b></u>	<u>Geospatial Applications and Information Science</u>	<u>3</u>
<del>In addition, students must complete a minimum of 15 hours of GEOS at the 3000-level or above, classes must include one technical, two regional and two topical courses.</del>		<del>15</del>

<u>GEOS 40903</u>	<u>History and Philosophy of Geography</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Concentration</u>		<u>18</u>
<u>Any UA-Fayetteville credit hours numbered at the 30000-level or higher</u>		<u>3</u>
<u>Any credit hours numbered at the 30000-level or higher, or any 20000-level credit hours that have a course prerequisite</u>		<u>10</u>
<u>General Electives</u>		<u>38</u>
Total Hours		120

Students who expect to enter graduate school are encouraged to register for GEOS 4100V their senior year. Electives in closely related fields are considered a part of the program and, upon prior approval of the department, six hours may be counted toward the major. Those planning to teach in secondary schools should note that they can both earn their degree in geography and qualify for a teaching certificate; they should consult with the department as early as possible.

<sup>1</sup>World language courses taken are dependent on placement level in sequence.



## 8-Semester Plan

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Geography B.A. Eight-Semester Degree Program Students wishing to follow the eight-semester degree plan should see the Eight-Semester Degree Policy for university requirements of the program. Core requirement hours may vary by individual, based on placement and previous credit granted. Once all core requirements are met, students may substitute a three-hour (or more) general elective in place of a core area:

First Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
GEOG 11103 Human Geography (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1113)	3	-
ENGL 10103 Composition I (ACTS Equivalency = ENGL 1013)	3	-
MATH 11003 College Algebra (ACTS Equivalency = MATH 1103) (or any higher level math)	3	-
Elementary II World Language Course	3	-
University/State Core Fine Arts, Humanities or U.S. History requirement	3	-
GEOG 11103 Physical Geology (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1114 Lecture)	-	4
& GEOG 11101 Physical Geology Laboratory (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1114 Lab)	-	3
ENGL 10203 Composition II (ACTS Equivalency = ENGL 1023)	-	3
Intermediate I World Language Course (or higher)	-	3
University/State Core Humanities, U.S. History, or Fine Arts requirement (as needed)	-	3
General Elective	-	3
Year Total:		

Second Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
GEOG 21003 World Regional Geography (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 2103)	3	-
GEOG 11203 Earth Science (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1124 Lecture)	4	-
& GEOG 11201 Earth Science Laboratory (ACTS Equivalency = GEOG 1124 Lab)	-	3
University/State Core U.S. History, Fine Arts, or Humanities Course (as needed)	3	-
University/State Core Social Science requirement (non-GEOS course)	3	-
General Elective	3	-
GEOS 3000 Level or Above Elective <sup>2</sup>	-	3
Advanced Level Elective <sup>1</sup>	-	3
General Electives	-	9
Year Total:		

Third Year	Units	
	Fall	Spring
GEOS 30203 Introduction to Cartography <sup>2</sup>	3	-
GEOS 3000-level or Above Elective <sup>2</sup>	3	-
General Electives	9	-
GEOS 35403 Geospatial Applications and Information Science	-	3
GEOS 3000-level or Above Elective <sup>2</sup>	-	3

Advanced Level Elective<sup>1</sup> - 3

General Electives - 6

Year Total:

Fourth Year	Units
	FallSpring

GEOS 3000-level or above Elective<sup>2</sup> 3 -

3000-plus Upper Level ARSC Elective with Departmental Consent<sup>2</sup> 3 -

Advanced Level Elective<sup>1</sup> 3 -

General Electives 6 -

GEOS 3000-level or above Elective - 3

3000-plus Upper Level ARSC Elective with Departmental Consent<sup>2</sup> - 3

3000-plus Upper Level ARSC Elective<sup>2</sup> - 3

3000-plus Upper Level Elective<sup>1</sup> - 3

General Elective - 1

Year Total:

Total Units in Sequence: 0

<sup>1</sup>Meets 40-hour advanced credit hour requirement. See College Academic Regulations.<sup>2</sup>

Meets 24-hour rule (24 hours of 3000-4000 level courses in Fulbright College), in addition to meeting the 40-hour rule. See College Academic Regulations.

Are Similar Programs available in the area?

No

Estimated Student 15/year

Demand for Program

Scheduled Program 2028-2029

Review Date

Program Goals and Objectives

**Program Goals and Objectives**

The Bachelor's of Science degree in Geography gives students ~~These minor changes to~~ the opportunity to learn about Geography BA are intended to increase the human technical rigor of the program by requiring GEOS 3543, Geospatial Applications and physical elements of our world while developing the technical skills to conduct robust scientific analysis. ~~Information Science as a technical class that complements Introduction to Cartography and better prepares students for post-graduate employment. In addition, specifying a technical class as one of the 15 hours of 3000-level or above Geography electives provides those students who do not chose the GIS/Cartography specialization with stronger technical skills at graduation.~~

Learning Outcomes



### Learning Outcomes

After graduating with a BS Geography degree, students will have an understanding of the human and physical processes shaping the world today, while also gaining expertise in how to conduct such work in a scientifically verifiable and testable way ~~The elected learning outcomes of increasing the technical component of the Geography BA will be increased technical proficiency in Geography graduates from this program.~~

#### Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
<p>Complete reorganization of the degree from a BA to a BS. See attached before and after document for detailed changes.</p> <p>General change summary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created a common core that all Geography majors will complete, which includes a capstone course that meets GELO 6.1.</li> <li>Creation of 3 equally sized concentrations that offer students the opportunity to specialize</li> <li>Set the degree up in size to easily pair with other majors/degrees on campus due to having 38 hrs of general electives. (additional information about the changing size of the major: The Geography BS major will be focused on student training in geography and the geosciences more broadly. This emphasis has resulted in the reduction of redundant courses in the major (e.g., rather than both Human Geography and World Regional Geography, students will take only one) and the elimination of the world language requirement in line with other BS degrees in Fulbright College.)</li> <li>Updated program goals/objectives and Learning outcomes to reflect the changes to the degree.</li> </ol>	<p>The Geosciences department is proposing changing the undergraduate degree in Geography from a Bachelors of Arts to a Bachelors of Science. There are three primary motivations for doing so. First, this change helps to consolidate the place of the geography degree at Arkansas in the larger universe of STEM fields. Geography is recognized as a discipline that combines the social and physical sciences through the use of spatial analysis and techniques. Second, transitioning to a BS degree will bring our program in line with proximate peer institutions, including the University of Kansas, the University of Oklahoma, and Louisiana State University, which all offer BS Geography degrees. Third, the accompanying curriculum revision ensures that undergraduate geography majors have a capstone course in the major and also a clear path to graduation with three newly established concentrations (in human geography, technical geography, and general geography) that allow students to focus their interest across the diverse discipline that is geography. Other proximate peer institutions, including the University of Texas-Austin, also offer concentrations within geography to allow undergraduate students to focus their studies.</p>

#### Upload attachments

[LON GEOG.pdf](#)

[GEOGBA to GEOGBS - before and after.docx](#)

[GEOGBS - Reconfiguration - Ltr of Notification\\_Rev\\_BOT.pdf](#)

#### Reviewer Comments

**Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza) (10/22/24 4:40 pm):** GEOS 30003 currently in approval process for fall 2025 effective date.

**Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza) (10/24/24 3:45 pm):** Uploaded new version of the before and after curriculum (includes total hours for degree)

**Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza) (10/29/24 10:16 am):** Uploaded revised LON with appropriate dates inserted.

Key: 422