

GEOGRAPHY, B.A. HONOURS

Bachelor of Arts in Geography

Head: Dr. Bruce Erickson

Campus Address/General Office: 220 Sinnott Building

Telephone: (204) 474-9667

Fax: (204) 261-0038

Email Address: envgeo@umanitoba.ca

Website: umanitoba.ca/environment-earth-resources/environment-and-geography (<https://umanitoba.ca/environment-earth-resources/environment-and-geography/>)

Program Information

There are three areas where students can focus their course work in the B.A. in Geography program:

- *Resources, Environment and Society (RS)* focuses on the geographies of natural and human induced environmental processes in the recognition that current environmental change shapes relationships across all scales of society;
- *Global Politics, Justice, and Sustainability (GPS)* a global scale, integrated assessment of the links between the economic, socio-cultural, ecological and political systems that combine to shape the world in which we live; and
- *Culture, Identity and Space (CIS)* which emphasizes the dynamics between identity, culture and landscapes, with a particular focus on cooperation and conflict that produce local landscapes.

These areas reflect the expertise of the department and are not required for students in the program. A guide to these areas, and the courses that align with them, is published by the department.

The attraction of Geography as a discipline lies in its diverse interests and approaches to knowledge building while being centred on the fundamental concepts of human-environment relations, location/place and space/ distance. Geographers see the world and want to know how physical processes and systems shape the land, air, water, flora and fauna around them and how these are influenced by human activity. We want to know how human societies, cultures, and economies work and how these human systems are interdependent with each other and with natural systems. We work at a variety of geographic scales, from the micro-scale of local communities and regions, through the macro-scale of global human and physical systems. Human geography embraces the study of topics as wide-ranging as: human-environment relationships, globalization, social justice, attachment to place, recreation and tourism, climate change, and geopolitics. Therefore, by selecting courses from within the department, as well as complementary courses from other academic units of the University, students can develop fascinating, focused and challenging degree programs that will prepare them for careers in a variety of areas.

The General B.A. degree in Geography (90 credit hours, 30 in Geography) provides students with a basic level of understanding of the discipline and its inter-relationships. **This degree is also a useful consideration for students planning to complete the After-Degree Bachelor of Education program (see Faculty of Education (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/education/>)).** The General degree program may be completed entirely by Distance Education.

The Advanced B.A. degree program in Geography (120 credit hours, 51 in Geography) provides opportunities for students who desire a broad

geographical education along with a significant degree of specialization in a particular field of Geography.

Students planning a professional career, graduate school or a high degree of specialization in Geography are strongly advised to enter the Honours B.A. degree program (120 credit hours, 69 in Geography). The Honours degree demands the highest scholastic performance of all programs available. Students are strongly advised to enter an Honours degree program with their admission to the Bachelor of Arts in Geography. Consultation with the department head and Faculty academic advisors is also recommended.

STRUCTURE OF THE B.A. GEOGRAPHY DEGREE PROGRAM

The structure of the B.A. Geography degree is summarized as follows:

A **Geography (Major)** component that varies in credit hour requirement depending on the degree program; 30 credit hours in the General; 51 credit hours in the Advanced; and 69 credit hours in the Honours. Students are not permitted to declare a second major.

Advanced and General degree students must complete a **Minor** in a subject field that is different than that of the declared major. Honours degree students may, if they choose, complete a Minor in a subject field that is different than that of the declared major. The minor may be chosen from one of the other programs in the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources or any program at the University that offers a Minor. Students in the B.A. Geography are not permitted to complete a Minor in Physical Geography. Refer to the Minor requirements as described in the Faculty Regulations (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext:~:text=Faculty%20student%20advisor,-AVAILABLE%20MINORS%20IN%20DEPARTMENTS%20AND%20FACULTIES,-Students%20in%20the>). Contact a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/environment-earth-resources/student-experience/#:~:text=Aid%20and%20Awards,-Academic%20advisors,-Academic%20advisors%20are>) in the Faculty Dean's Office for further information about eligible Minors.

Students must complete 5 subject fields with 6 credit hours in each (30 credit hours). For example: 6 credit hours in Geography, plus 6 credit hours in Mathematics, plus 6 credit hours in Geological Sciences, plus 6 credit hours in Anthropology, plus 6 credit hours in Indigenous Studies.

Students must also complete 6 credit hours from Humanities, and 6 credit hours offered by the Faculty of Arts, and 6 credit hours of science courses.

Note: Students can satisfy the requirement for Humanities, and/or Arts, or science and at the same time satisfy the Written English or Mathematics requirement and one of the 5 subject fields required with the same 6 credit hours of courses.

Humanities

For course subjects taught by the Faculty of Arts that can be used towards the Humanities requirement, refer to the Faculty of Arts, Additional Faculty Regulations and Policies (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/arts/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Music (i.e. all courses listed for Advanced Major and Minor programs except ensemble courses) and History of Art (i.e. all courses listed with course prefix FAAH) may also be eligible courses. Students should see a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/environment-earth-resources/student-experience/>)

6 credit hours of Electives	6
Hours	30
Year 4	
GEOG 4660 Honours Thesis	6
18 credit hours in Geography courses numbered at the 4000- level	18
6 credit hours of Electives	6
Hours	30
Total Hours	120

¹ GEOG 1290 satisfies 3 of the required 6 credit hours of Science courses. Students in the Honours or Advanced degree programs will satisfy the Science requirement via other required course work. Students in the General degree selecting this course must complete an additional 3 credit hours of Science courses. General degree students electing GEOG 1280 or GEOG 1700 must complete 6 credit hours from science courses.

² May also satisfy the Faculty of Arts requirement.

³ Students wishing to transfer from the General to the Advanced or Honours degree program are permitted to take GEOG 3730 in either third or fourth year.

⁴ The former GEOG 2530 may be used in lieu of ENVR 2810.

⁵ In order to register in these courses, students must have fulfilled the prerequisites.

Notes:

- Equivalent courses offered through Université de Saint-Boniface may be used in lieu of the specified courses identified in the degree program chart.
- Entrance into the Honours and Advanced degree programs is summarized in Advanced Entry Requirements (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/environment-geography/geography-ba-advanced/#Honours-Entry-Requirements>).
- The W and M requirements must be completed within the first 60 credit hours.
- To fulfil prerequisite requirements, a grade of "C" must be achieved, unless otherwise stated, in any course stipulated as a prerequisite to a further course.
- Students should review the current course topics available through GEOG 3740, GEOG 3750, GEOG 3760, GEOG 3770 and GEOG 4670. Also, all courses are not offered every year or every term. The course schedule for the current academic term is available from the Class Schedule in Aurora (https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/banprod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched/).
- Students registering in certain courses may be required to participate in field trips or field components and pay a portion of the associated expenses. For details, contact the Department of Environment and Geography (geography_environment@umanitoba.ca) general office.