

PATHWAYS | GEOGRAPHY

Bachelor of Science in Geography



COLLEGE OF
SCIENCES &
MATHEMATICS

COURSE SELECTION

FRESHMAN

- As majors in Geography, plan to take, Global Geography (GEOG 1010) as your first introduction to Geography, and Core Social Science; also plan to take Physical (GEOG 2020) and Cultural Geography (GEOG 2010) courses early in the degree program

SOPHOMORE

- Take the techniques courses starting with Cartography (GEOG 3810) currently offered in the Spring semester. Also in the next few years plan to take GIS (GEOG 5830 offered every semester) and Remote Sensing only offered every Fall (GEOG 5820)
- Begin scouting out for Geography Elective classes.
- Plan for obtaining a minor along with your geography major which would supplement your resume. Examples include minors in Sustainability, Natural Resources, Environmental Sciences, or a Foreign language.

JUNIOR

- Plan to take more GIS courses to improve your skills in geospatial techniques. This includes courses offered in other departments such as Biosystems Engineering, Forestry, and Community Planning.

SENIOR

- Finish your Geography electives, and take the Senior seminar course focused on your ePortfolio.

ASK FOR ASSISTANCE

- Meet with your COSAM academic advisor and/or your GEOG faculty advisors to discuss career opportunities and a plan of study.



Sciences Center Classroom Building, home of COSAM student advising.

- Toward the end of the year, talk with your faculty advisor about areas of geography that interest you and possible Directed Study classes for next year.
- Geography offers an Accelerated Master's program. Ask your advisor if you are interested in this potential opportunity.
- Ask for help from your faculty advisor finding a Directed Study or Research Methods topic
- Keep your grades up and consider Grad School.
- Look into the possibilities of internships
- Now is the time to get serious if you're considering grad school – take the GRE and talk to faculty about assistantship opportunities.

GAIN EXPERIENCE

- Go to the Dept. colloquium when possible. Volunteer to help faculty with research, which may lead to other opportunities. Spend some time reading online and on the Department's Web site to see what is going on in the discipline and in the Department.
- Attend the South Eastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG) meeting and/or the Applied Geography conference
- Get involved with faculty members in COSAM outreach activities like AU explore and Mad Scientist fair to build on your resume and ePortfolio
- SEDAAG, Applied Geography conference, Local GIS conferences
- Present Directed Study research at AU Student Research Symposium
- Connect to a faculty member in geography to learn the techniques/methods of research, write journal papers. Publish Directed Study research in AU Journal of Undergraduate Research
- Attend SEDAAG and AAG to continue connection with the faculty and researchers you have met earlier at conferences

GET INVOLVED

- Join the Geoclub and attend meetings, events, and field trips arranged by geography juniors and seniors.
- Spend time with fellow geoscientists
- Participate in Geoclub field trips with the thought of collecting data for future research
- Utilize AUIvolve (auburn.edu/auivolve) to identify organizations of interest to attend meetings and enhance your resume.
- Consider Study Abroad opportunities,
- Consider joining GTU, and/or get involved in an undergraduate research project
- See if you can help a graduate student with his/her research.
- Mentor students who are now entering our program, they look up to seniors
- Give back to the community. Find out ways to share your experience and knowledge through volunteering.



CAREER PLANNING

AUBURN UNIVERSITY CAREER CENTER

303 MARY MARTIN HALL | AUBURN.EDU/CAREER

This program equips students to enter a variety of fields, but has a significant emphasis on modern applications and tools of geography (e.g. global positioning, geographical information systems [GIS], remote sensing, etc.). Many public and government agencies employ geographers in their development and planning offices.



Mary Martin Hall, home of the Auburn University Career Center

Updated: October 3, 2016

GEOSCIENTIST

MINIMUM EDUCATION: B.S.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$37.0K - \$65.1K

GEOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS ANALYST

MINIMUM EDUCATION: B.S.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$60.0K - \$83.9K

CLIMATE CHANGE ANALYST

MINIMUM EDUCATION: M.S.

ENTRY LEVEL SALARY RANGE: \$35.9K - \$54.5K

These are just three options out of many that geography majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out "What Can I Do With a Major In..." on auburn.edu/career.