GEOGRAPHY, B.A.

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

Program of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Carolina Core</td>
<td>32-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. College Requirements</td>
<td>15-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Program Requirements</td>
<td>34-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Major Requirements</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/).

1. Carolina Core Requirements (32-44 hours)

CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

must be passed with a grade of C or higher

• any CC-CMW courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-8 hours)

• any CC-ARP courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

• Two 4-credit hour CC-SCI courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

GFL – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language (0-6 hours)

Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.

• CC-GFL courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.

GHS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Historical Thinking (3 hours)

• any CC-GHS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

GSS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Social Sciences (3 hours)

• any CC-GSS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

AIU – Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding (3 hours)

• any CC-AIU course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

CMS – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component 1 (0-3 hours)

• any overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

INF – Information Literacy 1 (0-3 hours)

• any overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

VSR – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility 1 (0-3 hours)

• any overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

1 Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements — Overlay-approved courses offer students the option of meeting two Carolina Core components in a single course. A maximum of two overlays is allowed. The total Carolina Core credit hours must add up to a minimum of 31 hours. Some programs may have a higher number of minimum Carolina Core hours due to specified requirements.

Choose at least 1 of the following to fulfill a Carolina Core requirement

must be passed with a grade of C or higher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 103</td>
<td>Foundations of Geography (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 104</td>
<td>Introduction to Physical Geography (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 105</td>
<td>The Digital Earth (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 121</td>
<td>Geographies of Global Change (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 201</td>
<td>Landform Geography (*)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 202</td>
<td>Weather and Climate (*)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 210</td>
<td>Peoples, Places, and Environments (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)

Foreign Language (0-3 hours)

• only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

History (3 hours)

The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.
Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. **All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher.** At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/).

### Electives (16-37 hours)
120 (or 128) degree applicable credits are required to complete any degree at USC. After the cognate, minor or second major is complete, any additional credits needed to reach 120 (or 128) total credits can be fulfilled by electives. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Note: 4-25 hours of electives will be needed to reach hours to graduate, if completing the B.A. with Distinction.

### 4. Major Requirements (24 hours)
*a minimum grade of C is required in all major courses*

#### Major Courses (6 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 495</td>
<td>Seminar in Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 341</td>
<td>Cartography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 345</td>
<td>Introduction to Remote Sensing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 263</td>
<td>Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 551</td>
<td>Remote Sensing of the Environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credit Hours** 6

#### Major Electives (18 hours)

- Select 5-6 GEOG courses with advisor’s approval that are tailored towards a topical, methodological, or geographical focus.

Note: Majors may take up to 9 hours of GEOG courses at the 200-level to fulfill major requirements; 6 hours must be at the 500-level. GEOG 595 can be used to fulfill up to 3 hours of geography elective credit, but not the 500-level requirement. Courses used to fulfill Carolina Core or College Requirements may not be used again to fulfill these requirements.

### B.A. with Distinction in Geography (36 hours)

Available to students majoring in Geography who wish to participate in significant research activities in their major field under the supervision of a faculty mentor.

#### Prerequisite

A minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major, and 3.30 cumulative, is required to apply for a BA or BS with Distinction in Geography.

#### Requirements

- Students must submit a written application for the BA with Distinction in Geography at least eight months before completion of the degree.
• Written sponsorship agreement from a Geography faculty mentor on file in the department.
• An established thesis committee consisting of a tenure-track faculty member in Geography and at least one other tenure-track or research faculty member at the University of South Carolina.
• A written thesis demonstrating significant original work and approved by the thesis committee.
• A public presentation of the Senior Thesis research.
• Successful fulfillment of all requirements below with a minimum GPA of 3.50 in the major and 3.30 cumulative.
• General major requirements, plus 12 additional credit hours including:
  • A minimum of nine credit hours in GEOG 498, or any GEOG 500-level courses (9 hours)
  • GEOG 499

Note: South Carolina Honors College students satisfying the above requirements will graduate with "Honors from the South Carolina Honors College" and with "Distinction in Geography."