GEOGRAPHY, B.S.

The Bachelor of Science in Geography degree focuses on Earth’s physical systems and the connections between them. Graduates will gain scientific insights into humankind’s impact on natural environments, making this major ideal for students interested in pursuing climate science, geographic information science (GIS) mapping, or similar technical fields.

Compared to the B.A. in geography, the B.S. focuses more on physical landscapes and processes operating in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere while still providing a well-rounded selection of social sciences and humanities courses. Students on the B.S. track choose one of three concentrations: general geography, GIS or physical and environmental geography.

Students learn to interpret and analyze Earth’s physical environments, use geospatial technologies and statistics, and communicate findings effectively. The skills students build in the geography program translate across fields in the academic, business, government and non-profit sectors.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate in written and oral forms. These outcomes are evaluated together because they are connected for our students who often are in careers where their written work is the substance of their oral presentations. We see the linkage of the two to be the most important aspect.

2. Students will demonstrate understanding of and the use of one geographical technique such as GIS, remote sensing, cartography, or spatial statistics.

3. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of the central themes within the discipline.

4. Students will be prepared for careers in the field or for graduate study in geography.