

3350 GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography
Bachelor of Arts in Geography/Planning Concentration
***Bachelor of Science in Geography/Geographic Information Sciences**

THE BA IN GEOGRAPHY IS INTENDED FOR STUDENTS DESIRING A BROAD STUDY OF THE DISCIPLINE OF GEOGRAPHY. *THE BS IN GEOGRAPHY/GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCES SERVES STUDENTS WHO ARE SEEKING A STRONGER BACKGROUND IN THE TECHNOLOGY OR TOOLS USED BY GEOGRAPHERS, INCLUDING CARTOGRAPHY, GIS AND REMOTE SENSING.

NOTE: A student should be familiar with the degree requirements. The following has approval of the Department of Geography and Planning but is intended only as a guide. Degree requirements are established at the time of admission to the degree-granting college

FIRST YEAR

Fall Semester

	<u>Semester Credit Hours</u>	<u>Prerequisites</u>
3300:111 English Composition I	4	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
3350:100 Introduction to Geography (Note a.)	3	
3450/3470 Math Requirement (Note d.)	3-4	Appropriate Placement by Adviser
Language Requirement (Note b.)	<u>3-4</u>	
	14-15	

Spring Semester

3300:112 English Composition II	3	3300:111 or equivalent
7600:105 Introduction to Public Speaking -OR-		
7600:106 Effective Oral Communication	3	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	3-4	
Social Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
Physical Education/Wellness Note c.)	<u>1-3</u>	
	14-17	

SECOND YEAR – A student should meet with dept. chair or undergraduate adviser before registering for the second year.

Fall Semester

3350:310 Physical and Environ. Geography (Lect. & Lab) -OR-		
3350:320 Economic Geography	3	
3350:305 Maps and Map Reading	3	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	3	
3400:210 Humanities in the Western Tradition I	4	32 credits & 3300:111, 112
Elective (Note e.)	<u>3</u>	
	16-17	

Spring Semester

3350:250 World Regional Geography -OR-		
3350:351 Ohio: Environment & Society	3	
3350:340 Cartography (Lecture & Lab)	3	
Language Requirement (Note b.)	3	
Natural Science Requirement (Note a.)	3-4	
Humanities Course	<u>3-4</u>	3400:210
	15-17	

NOTES:

- a. Social Science and Natural Science courses are required. Intro. To Geography, 3350:100, will count towards completing half of the Social Science requirement. Please refer to the General Education Guide or see your adviser regarding acceptable courses. A student interested in a major in Geography should consult with the Dept. Chair about taking the Honors section of Introduction to Geography, 3350:100.
- b. Completion of the second year of a foreign language or American Sign Language is required for the Bachelor of Arts.
- c. Please see the General Education Guide.
- d. A variety of math courses can be taken. Consult with your adviser before registering.
- e. The department recommends electives in the areas of Economics, Geology, History, Mathematics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Graphic Design, and Computer Fundamentals.

POLICY ALERT: 1) By the end of your first 48 credit hours attempted, you must have completed your General Education English, Math, and Communications (Speech) requirements; 2) By the end of your first 48 credit hours attempted, you must have declared a major and transferred to (been accepted by) a degree granting college at The University of Akron.

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IN GENERAL: Because the subject is so wide, most geographers specialize in one of the several main branches of geography – physical geography, economic geography, urban geography or cartography. Those working in economic geography deal with the geographic distribution of economic activities – including manufacturing, farming, trade and commerce. A large and growing group of geographers is employed by private research companies and state development agencies to locate suitable sites for new industry.

Urban geography, a rapidly growing field is concerned with the study of cities and with community planning. Specialists in physical geography study the earth's physical characteristics and attempt to relate this physical environment to the location and activities of people.

Cartographers are concerned with the design and construction of maps, as well as the compilation of data for them. A critical shortage of personnel exists today in the field of cartography. Computer cartography and graphics is the fastest growing area and geographic information sciences (GIS) analysts are in great demand.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Employment prospects for a person with a bachelor's or advanced degree in geography are good. Some people with only bachelor's degrees can be employed immediately in cartography or in urban and regional planning. Persons with advanced degrees are employed in the above fields and in other activities as well. Many geographers are employed by various governmental units from the Federal government agencies, through state government departments, to local government offices such as planning, development and environmental agencies. Opportunities are steadily increasing for employment of geographers in the private sector as well. Jobs include market research, industrial and commercial site selection and environmental assessments. For those trained in geographic techniques of cartography, remote sensing and geographic information sciences, employment potential is great.

JOB LOCALE: Some positions are available for location specialists (economic geography) in Akron and Cleveland. A number of planning and GIS positions exist in northeast Ohio. Flexibility in location is a plus.

SALARY LEVEL: Starting salaries vary widely. They are normally between \$25,000 - \$32,000.

TRANSFER TO DEGREE-GRANTING COLLEGE: A student should apply to the college upon completion of 30 credits and a 2.0 or better overall GPA (including transfer work). In addition, the student must have achieved a 2.0 in all coursework in the major field (including transfer work). The 30 credits must include the completion of both required English Composition courses and 3 credits of mathematics or statistics which meets the General Education requirement. This transfer process is completed through an appointment with an adviser, the Academic Advisement Center, Simmons Hall, Room 205, (330) 972-7430, or Summit College, Polsky 301, (330) 972-7220, depending upon the college in which you reside.

PLACEMENT: A student is encouraged to check with his/her major department and with the Arts and Sciences Careers Program, Dr. James Egan, Director, 325 Olin Hall, 330/972-5714 regarding employment opportunities in the field and Graduate School information.

ARTS & SCIENCES: Degree requirements in Arts & Sciences include the first and second year of a foreign language (most majors), and 47 credits of 300/400 level courses, not including workshops or Humanities in the Western Tradition or Area Studies and Cultural Diversity requirements. Consult your major department for any possible exceptions or problems.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION: Co-op is available on an optional basis in this academic program. To obtain additional information on program benefits, eligibility requirements, or apply for the program, contact the co-op staff in Simmons Hall 301, (330) 972-8655.

INTERNSHIPS: Internships for majors, usually seniors, are available through the Department of Geography and Planning. These assignments are limited in number and the agencies involved vary by semester. Assignments are made by the Department Chair.