DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

The Geography Department provides a broad-ranging perspective on humans as inhabitants and transformers of the face of the earth. The search for this kind of understanding involves thorough study of (a) the interlocking systems of the natural environment (climate, landforms, oceans, biota) and the evaluation of natural resources; (b) those diverse historical, cultural, social, economic, and political structures and processes which affect the location and spatial organization of population groups and their activities; and (c) significant geographical units, whether described as cities, regions, nations, states or landscapes, where integrated interpretation can be attempted, and a variety of problems thereby better understood.

THE GEOGRAPHY MAJOR

The undergraduate major in geography therefore includes the study of various aspects of cultural, human, physical, and regional geography as well as cartography, quantitative methods, and fieldwork. Backgrounds in the natural and social sciences, history, and statistical methods will be found useful to the geography major, the emphasis depending on the student's particular interests. It allows specialization in the area of the student's chief interest, and assumes that the student has previously achieved some breadth in the basics of geography through completion of the lower division requirements. A late-declaring major (determined as a Senior) who has not completed one of the lower division requirements will be required to complete an upper division equivalent to be chosen in consultation with the Student Academic Advisor (SAA).

It is not necessary to declare an option formally, but it is necessary to complete one for graduation. In some cases there are course options within the major options. Occasionally, due to the unavailability of a course listed in the option, substitution of another course is necessary. Any such substitutions, once approved by an advisor, must be in writing and placed in your file.

Most courses are offered only once a year; therefore careful scheduling is important to avoid course "jam-up" or situations in which some courses cannot be taken due to the necessity of completing a left-over Letters and Science or Departmental requirement. It is best to
complete requirements as rapidly as possible to allow maximum flexibility during your last semesters when your interests are better defined.

**Major Requirements**

**Lower Division** - All majors complete three lower division courses, one from each group:

- **Basic Physical Geography** -
  - GEOG 1 (Global Environments)
  - GEOG 40 (Intro to Earth System Science)
  - or equivalent

- **World Geography** -
  - GEOG 10 (World Regions, Peoples, & States)
  - GEOG 20 (Globalization)
  - GEOG 31 (Justice, Nature, and the Geography of Identity)
  - GEOG 35 (Global Ecology and Development)
  - or equivalent

- **Regional Geographies** -
  - GEOG 50AC (California)
  - GEOG C32 (Intro to Development)
  - GEOG 51 (Political Econ of Development in East Asia)
  - GEOG 70AC (The Urban Experience)
  - or equivalent.

**Upper Division** - Select from one of the following plans:

**5-2-1 Plan**

Majors must take eight or more upper div courses. Five of these must be in one specialty group and two from the other. One course from the methodology group must be completed. Everyone choosing the Earth System Science option must take Geography 140A. Everyone choosing the Economy, Culture & Society option must take Geography C110 -OR- Geography 130.

**4-2-2 Plan**

Majors must take eight or more upper division courses. Four of these must be in one specialty group and two from the other. Two courses from the methodology group must be completed. Everyone choosing the Earth System Science option must take Geography 140A. Everyone choosing the Economy, Culture & Society option must take Geography C110 -OR- Geography 130.
Specialty Groups: (note: course substitutions may be made with permission of the SAA and UG Faculty Advisor)

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<th>Earth System Science</th>
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<tr>
<td>109. Prehistoric Agriculture</td>
<td>144. Principles of Meteorology</td>
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<td>C136. Terrestrial Hydrology</td>
<td>C146. Communicating Ocean Science</td>
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<td>137. Top Ten Global Environmental Problems</td>
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<td>C139. Atmospheric Physics &amp; Dynamics</td>
<td>171. Special Topics in Physical Geography</td>
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<td>140A. Physical Landscapes: Process &amp; Form</td>
<td>173B. Cross-listed Topics in Physical Geography</td>
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<td>140B. Physiography &amp; Geomorph. Extremes</td>
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<td>143. Global Change and Biogeochemistry</td>
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<th>Economy, Culture &amp; Society</th>
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<tr>
<td>109. Prehistoric Agriculture</td>
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<td>C110. Econ Geog of the Industrial World</td>
<td>C160A American Cultural Landscapes, 1600-1900</td>
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<td>C112. History of Dev/Underdevelopment</td>
<td>C160B American Cultural Landscapes, 1900-present</td>
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<td>123. Postcolonial Geographies</td>
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<td>125. The American City</td>
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<td>130. Food and Environment</td>
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<td>137. Top Ten Global Environmental Problems</td>
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<td>138. Political Ecology of the Third World</td>
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<td>150. California</td>
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<td>C152. Multi-Cultural Europe</td>
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<td>153. Soc &amp; Econ Dev in East Asia</td>
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<td>C157. Central American Peoples &amp; Cultures</td>
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<td>159AC The Southern Border</td>
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<th>Methodology</th>
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<td>181. Urban Field Study</td>
<td>187. Geographic Information Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>182 Field Study of Buildings and Cities</td>
<td>C188 Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<td>183. Cartographic Representation</td>
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* Based on relevance of topic

Honors Program

Departmental Honors

Students with an overall grade point average of 3.5 or higher on all work completed at the University, and an average of 3.5 in courses taken in the Geography Department, may apply for the Honors Program, with the consent of a departmental advisor. The application should be made at the beginning of the senior year. A senior in the Honors Program must complete Geography H195A and/or H195B consecutively, in which a thesis is required (usually over two semesters). Any faculty member in the Department may administer an honors course. It is suggested that you
approach faculty members from whom you’ve taken classes about being your mentor. After deciding on the number of units (1-4 units) you wish to undertake, see the Student Academic Advisor for a course control number (CCN) and the departmental application. Upon successful completion of the program and graduation, the designation of “with Honors”, “with High Honors”, or “with Highest Honors” will be noted on your transcript and diploma.

College Honors

The College of Letters and Science’s awarding of "Distinction", "High Distinction", and “Highest Distinction” is based solely on the grade-point average established for the year in which the student graduates. The required minimum grade-point averages for this award may vary from year to year. This notation will appear on the student’s diploma, on the List of Certificates, Degrees and Distinction, and on their Berkeley record when they graduate.

Academic Performance Requirement

Students in the major must maintain an overall grade point average of a C or better in upper division courses used to fulfill the requirements for the major. All courses required for the Geography major must be taken for a letter grade. Geography H195A-B, 197, 198, and 199 cannot be used to satisfy a major or minor program requirement.

Note about maintaining minimum grades: According to an Academic Senate rule, if a student fails to get at least a 2.0 in any unit undertaken in the major, the department can dismiss him/her from the major, and send the student back to the College to select another major at which he/she will be more successful. The Geography Department would be reluctant to do that, but the faculty advisors may review a student’s file if at any time his/her grade points in any course taken in the major dips below a 2.0. Thus a student cannot accumulate a number of D's and F's in Geography, while managing to pass a number of other courses with a C or better, and expect to be allowed to complete the major. If at any time you need help, don’t fail to take action. Make an appointment to talk to the Student Academic Advisor, one of the undergraduate faculty advisors, or your instructors.
Code of Ethics and Climate Standards of the Undergraduate Geography Program

The Department of Geography at the University of California, Berkeley offers one of the finest undergraduate degrees in the world. The department prides itself in having a harmonious and respectful space where every person in our community receives respect and civility from one another.

As a declared major, this department can create opportunities that are currently unavailable to most of you. Each of you must uphold high ethical standards to protect these opportunities. Any student who does not uphold these standards should not expect to declare or continue to major in the Geography Department.

Code of Ethics of the Undergraduate Geography Program

Neither this department, nor its students, will condone cheating, lying, or any other misrepresentations. Moreover, anyone who willingly conceals these activities will be considered accomplices and equally culpable.

All undergraduate students are expected to comply with the code of ethics of the Undergraduate Program as stated above. In doing so, we commit ourselves to upholding the standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility.

Violations of the code of ethics will be referred to the University of California, Berkeley’s Center for Student Conduct and Community Standards and can be grounds for dismissal from the major.

Climate Standards of the Undergraduate Geography Program

As part of our educational community the undergraduate student is required to adhere to certain responsibilities. We expect of our students the highest ethical behavior and they are responsible for contributing to an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment on the basis of categories including race, color, national origin, gender, age and sexual orientation/identity. This department depends on the personal integrity of each of us. Your grades and your degree will mean little without a firm foundation upon which to base these credentials.

Violations of the climate standards will be referred to the University of California, Berkeley’s Center for Student Conduct and Community Standards and can be grounds for dismissal from the major.
MINOR PROGRAM IN GEOGRAPHY

The requirements for the minor program are as follows, effective Fall 1997:

A minimum of five upper division courses taken for a letter grade. Students must maintain an overall grade point average of 2.0 for all courses taken for the minor. A minimum of three courses must be taken on the Berkeley campus. Students must take at least one course in the physical area and one course in the human area from among the courses listed in the range of 109-173. Students may select courses in the range of 175-188, but if so, there are several that have limited enrollment and require permission of the instructor. (See Page 2 for course breakdown within each option.) Students should contact the Student Academic Advisor (SAA) to obtain a list of the courses being offered each semester, which fall into the two designated areas.

Once you have completed all of the requirements for the minor, you must see the SAA to fill out the “Confirmation of Minor Program” petition. You should plan on filing this petition with the SAA during finals week during the semester in which the last course is taken. It is the student’s responsibility to fill out this petition.

DEPARTMENTAL ORIENTATION

The Geography Department is located in 507 McCone Hall (phone number: 642-3903). The Student Academic Advisor’s office is in Room 517 and her direct phone number is 642-3904. The Faculty and Graduate Student Instructors’ Offices are located in McCone Hall; please see the Departmental Receptionist for exact locations.

Departmental Advising

The Student Academic Advisor, Marjorie Ensor, will help you to plan and execute your course work in the major program and answer questions concerning requirements and course substitutions. Professors Robert Rhew and Nathan Sayre are the Designated Undergraduate Faculty Advisors for 2010-2011. They may be consulted on any other questions concerning the major during their office hours or by special appointment. Students are also encouraged to seek substantive advice on academic matters from other faculty who share their interests or with whom they have had
classes. Information on general Letters and Science requirements should be obtained from a College advisor in the L&S office in 113 Campbell Hall.

Transfer Students

The Geography Department does not rule on the acceptability of course work and units earned at other universities towards University requirements; the College of Letters and Science determine this. The Geography Undergraduate Advisors, or the Student Academic Advisor acting on their behalf, will determine whether geography courses taken at other institutions fulfill any of the major requirements. Most courses taken at other campuses in the UC system and other major universities may be applied toward the major program. Most community college courses in cultural, physical and economic geography are accepted as equivalent to the lower division course requirements in the Berkeley Geography Department. Courses in general Geography (e.g., World Regional Geography) are sometimes accepted as fulfilling one of the lower division course requirements.

If you wish to substitute a course taken elsewhere for a departmental requirement, you must provide the course description, syllabus, and/or textbooks used in the courses in question. You should also bring proof of taking such courses (i.e., a copy of your transcript or a copy of your Degree Audit Request System [DARS] report showing the transfer credit. DARS is accessible via BearFacts). If a substitution is approved, it must be in writing (either by memo or email from Faculty Advisor and or SAA) and placed in your file.

Transfer students should be aware of University requirements pertaining to the number of units to be applied toward graduation that must be taken in residence at Berkeley in consecutive semesters (senior residency) of course work on this campus.

Declaration of the Major

Students may declare the Geography major after they have completed 2 of the 3 lower division requirements, completed at least 30 units, have a C (2.0) cumulative grade point average, and no prior infraction of the Undergraduate Code of Ethics and Climate Standard (refer to page 7 of the handbook). Students should declare by the end of their sophomore year at Berkeley, or by the start of their second semester if they are a transfer student. To declare, see the Student Academic Advisor to obtain a “Petition to Declare a Major” and a Departmental Information Sheet. These should be turned in with an unofficial transcript (showing UC Berkeley or community college work completed). The SAA or one of the UG Faculty Advisors can approve this petition.
Residence in the Major

All students must complete at least one semester of residence in the major before graduation. At least a C average (2.0) is required on all coursework undertaken at the University, and a C average is required on all coursework required for the major program, as well as a C average on all upper division courses required for the major.

Advisor Code

For security purposes, each semester students are assigned a unique Advisor Code number, which must be used in conjunction with the CalNet Identification Number and passphrase in order to access Tele-BEARS. Undergraduates who have declared geography as their major may obtain their AC number from the Student Academic Advisor in the department office. Note that majors will need a new AC number every Phase I.

Class Workload

A 15-unit class schedule is considered a normal course load; a class schedule totaling at least 13 units per semester (including repeated courses for which unit credit toward graduation may not be allowed) is required; a maximum of 20.5 units per semester is permitted. The major department can approve exceptions to the maximum; please see the SAA. Exceptions to the minimum must be approved through a College Advisor in the College of Letters and Science (L&S).

Double Major

Geography may be part of a double major. Regulations regarding the declaration of a double major may be found in the "Earning Your Degree," the announcement of the College of Letters & Science. An application can be obtained in the Letters and Science Office, 113 Campbell Hall. Applications must be submitted one full semester prior to graduation. Double majors should make it a point to see a Student Academic Advisor in both departments early in order to plan their programs.

Incompletes

Students must arrange for the completion of Incompletes with the instructor of the course before the end of the semester. Incompletes will be assigned only if the coursework has been of passing quality but due to circumstances beyond the student's control that work is incomplete. The remaining work to remove the "I" must be completed as follows:
Fall - no later than the first day of Fall semester classes the next year.

Spring - no later than the first day of Spring semester classes the next year.

Summer - no later than the first day of Spring semester classes the next year.

If the "I" is not made up within the periods indicated, the "I" converts to an "F". Please consult the "Announcement of the College of L&S" for a complete description of regulations governing "I" grades. The following are excerpts:

1. To remove an "I" after you have completed the remaining work, submit a "Petition for Grade and Grade Points in Incomplete Course" within the required time period. This form is available at the Office of Admission and Records, Letters and Science. The form fee is $5.00 per Incomplete petition, payable at the cashier office or by check payable to "UC Regents".

2. An "I" grade may be revised by repeating the courses (no petition required). The Dean's approval is required but permission is seldom granted, since a student should be able to revise an "I" grade without repetition.

Berkeley Undergraduate Geographers (BUGs)

The Berkeley Undergraduate Geographers (BUG’s) is a group organized by undergraduate Geography students in the department. "BUG’s" has an elected Body of Officers and holds frequent meetings during the semester. Field trips, informal lectures, picnics and potlucks, movie nights, lunchtime talks, and T-shirt sales are some past activities organized by BUG’s. BUG’s is open to all students interested in geography.

GRADUATION PROCEDURE

The first semester of your senior year you should:

1. Arrange with the Student Academic Advisor to have a degree check on major requirements.

2. In the semester before you file for candidacy for the BA degree, arrange to have a degree check of your Letters and Science breadth requirements at 113 Campbell Hall.
3. During the Tele-BEARS phases you will be asked if you wish to be placed on the degree list. If you respond appropriately you will be placed on the degree candidate list with the Office of Admissions and Records (OAR). If you fail to do so via Tele-BEARS, you will have to place yourself on the degree list via petition located at the College of Letters & Science.