

GEOGRAPHY

Program Description

The Greek derivation of the word geography is "earth description." Geography studies natural features such as mountain ranges, rivers, valleys, forests, deserts, and grasslands, as well as man-made features such as cities, roads, dams, and bridges. Geography is truly an integrated discipline. It helps us to understand our natural environment and its capacity to maintain life. Is this capacity of supporting human civilization unlimited? If not, how much more can we abuse our physical environment without diminishing its capacity to sustain life? Geography is central to an understanding of the international global arena and provides an exciting and challenging way to examine our planet.

Learn more about the program on the [Geography website](#).

Associate Degree for Transfer

This program also offers an Associate Degree for Transfer. Learn more and review the degree requirements on the [Geography AA-T listing](#).

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to interpret spatially distributed data and draw valid conclusions by using maps, graphs and/or Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Students will be able to evaluate core concepts in cultural and physical geography and apply them to contemporary events and issues.

Career Opportunities

Geography serves as an excellent undergraduate major. City, county, and state governments are hiring geographers in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), urban planning, and environmental studies because of their broad training. The national mapping division of the United States Geological Survey traditionally needs geographers in map making and its related job openings such as photo-interpretation, satellite image analysis, land use and land cover mapping. In addition, the analytical skills gained through a geography major provide a strong foundation for graduate study in law, urban planning and architecture. Geographers with advanced degrees are also in demand in colleges and universities around the world. Students should enhance their major with a strong array of courses in the international arena, statistics, physical sciences, computer science, and basic business principles.

Award Type(s)

- AS = Associate in Science Degree

Units Required

- Major: 37

Additional Information

Note: Students having difficulty attaining an associate degree because of timing or availability of classes should consult with a counselor to submit a petition for course substitution.

Associate Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
English Proficiency		
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 1A	COMPOSITION & READING	5
ENGL 1AH	HONORS COMPOSITION & READING	5
ENGL 1S & ENGL 1T	INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING and INTEGRATED COMPOSITION & READING	8
or equivalent		
Mathematics Proficiency		
Select one of the following:		
MATH 105	INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA	5
MATH 180	QUANTITATIVE REASONING	5
or any MATH course approved for Foothill GE Area V, Communication & Analytical Thinking		

A minimum of 90 units is required ¹ to include:

- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: Foothill General Education, CSU General Education Breadth Requirements or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)
- Core courses (21 units)
- Support courses (16 units)

¹ Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

Note: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a grade of "C" or better is required for all core and support courses used for the degree.

Core and Support Courses

Code	Title	Units
Core Courses		
GEOG 1	PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY	5
GEOG 2	HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	4
GEOG 5	INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY	4
GEOG 10	WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY	4
GEOG 11	INTRODUCTION TO MAPPING & SPATIAL REASONING	4
or GIST 11	INTRODUCTION TO MAPPING & SPATIAL REASONING	
Support Courses		
Select eight units from the following:		8
ANTH 2A	CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
or ANTH 2AH	HONORS CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY	
or ANTH 2B	PATTERNS OF CULTURE	
ECON 25	THE GLOBAL ECONOMY	
GEOG 12	INTRODUCTION TO GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY	
or GIST 12	INTRODUCTION TO GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY	
GLST 1	INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL STUDIES	
GLST 2	GLOBAL ISSUES	
HIST 4A	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION TO 800 CE	
or HIST 4B	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION: 700-1800	
or HIST 4C	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION 1789-PRESENT	

or HIST 4CH HONORS HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION 1789-PRESENT		
POLI 15	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/WORLD POLITICS	
or POLI 15H HONORS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/WORLD POLITICS		
And eight units from the following: ¹		8
ANTH 6	PEOPLES OF AFRICA	
BIOL 9	ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY	
BIOL 15	CALIFORNIA ECOLOGY/NATURAL HISTORY	
GEOG 70R	INDEPENDENT STUDY IN GEOGRAPHY	
GEOG 71R	INDEPENDENT STUDY IN GEOGRAPHY	
GEOG 72R	INDEPENDENT STUDY IN GEOGRAPHY	
GEOG 73R	INDEPENDENT STUDY IN GEOGRAPHY	
HIST 8	HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICA	
HIST 18	INTRODUCTION TO MIDDLE EASTERN CIVILIZATION	
HIST 19	HISTORY OF ASIA: CHINA/JAPAN	
HIST 20	HISTORY OF RUSSIA & THE SOVIET UNION	
POLI 2	COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	
or POLI 2H HONORS COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS		
Total Units		37

¹ Students may also use courses listed in the first section of support courses to fulfill the requirement for the second section of support courses.