

Department of

Geography



Eric Walz, Department Chair

Sean Cannon, Theron Josephson, Michael Madsen

MarcAnna Gohr, Secretary (208) 496-3060

<http://www.byui.edu/History>

Introduction

Geography has an ancient intellectual heritage which has persisted as humans have attempted to understand the complexities and interrelationships of world physical and cultural systems. Rooted in both the physical and social sciences, geography functions as a synthesizing discipline providing a “bridge” between these two often disparate interests. The Geography Department strives to perpetuate this long-standing objective by providing classes which investigate both the physical and cultural world. Geography students are trained to think in locational and spatial terms. In this context, students consider where physical and cultural phenomena are located and why they occupy this space. These principles, when combined

with the interaction of earth systems, are the central focus of the discipline and the Geography Department.

Our courses are designed to fulfill several purposes:

- (1) to unequivocally support the mission of BYU-Idaho and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- (2) Provide exposure to the thinking of influential scholars of the discipline, both past and present.
- (3) Prepare prospective teachers in geographic fundamentals to facilitate teaching those fundamentals to their students.
- (4) Encourage an understanding of geographic research and practice.
- (5) Introduction to research methodology, and introduce students to “leading edge” technology in geographic research and practice, in areas such as GIS and land-use planning.
- (6) Help students gain geographic literacy and certification as teachers of Geography at secondary level.

Career Opportunities

It is recommended that those with an interest in becoming geographers seek a broad background in many fields, especially in the Social and Earth Sciences. Geography majors may choose from careers in travel and tourism, cartography, business, government, education, planning and resource management or Geographic Information Systems.

A Geography-based, “Travel and Tourism” four-year degree program is available at BYU. This program is for students interested in careers as travel agents or tourism related careers. You can complete two of the core courses of this program (Geog 101 and Geog 120), while at BYU-Idaho. Contact Department of Geography for further information.

Department Requirements

— Students must earn a C- or better in all courses

111					
Geography Minor					
Minor Requirements					
<i>No Double Counting of Minor Courses - Students must maintain a minimum grade of C- in their minor courses</i>					
<i>Take these courses:</i>	<i>Take 2 courses:</i>	<i>cont.</i>		<i>Program Notes:</i>	
GEOG 101 3	GEOL 104 3	INTST 341 3			
GEOG 101L 1	GEOL 137 3	INTST 342 3			
GEOG 120 3	GEOL 404 3	INTST 343 3			
GEOG 230 3	GEOL 411 3	INTST 344 3			
GEOG 240 3	HIST 310 3	INTST 345 3			
13	HIST 325 3	INTST 346 3			
	HIST 330 3	INTST 348 3			
<i>Take 2 courses:</i>	HIST 335 3	INTST 349 3			
GEOG 320 3	HIST 340 3	INTST 350 3			
GEOG 321 3	INTST 340 3	6			
GEOG 340 3					
GEOG 350 3					
6					
Total Minor Credits=25					
This minor is available on the following tracks:					
Fall-Winter----	YES	Winter-Summer----	YES	Summer-Fall----	YES

112	
Minor in Geography Education	
Minor Requirements	
<i>No Double Counting of Minor Courses - Students must maintain a minimum grade of C- in their minor courses</i>	
<i>Take these courses:</i>	<i>Program Notes:</i>
GEOG 101 3	
GEOG 101L 1	
GEOG 120 3	
GEOG 230 3	
GEOG 240 3	
GEOG 320 3	
GEOG 321 3	
GEOG 350 3	
22	
Total Minor Credits=22	
This minor is available on the following tracks:	
Fall-Winter--- YES	Winter-Summer--- YES
Summer-Fall--- YES	

Course Descriptions

Credits*

- GEOG 101 Introduction to Physical Geography (3:3:0)**
 Fulfills GE Physical Science requirement.
 A geographic approach to the study of the physical environment.
 (Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 101L Physical Geography Lab (1:0:2)**
 Fulfills GE Physical Science requirement.
 Prerequisite: None. Students are encouraged to take the lab concurrently with Geog 101, but they are not required to do so.
 Lab for Physical Geography
 (Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 110 Geography for Elementary Education (3:3:0)**
 Prerequisite: Non-Elementary Education majors need instructor's approval.
 Introduces elementary education majors to the fundamentals of Physical and Human Geography.
 (Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 120 Geography and World Affairs (3:3:0)**
 Fulfills GE Social Science requirement.
 The study of human cultures as they interact with each other and with their physical environment.
 (Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 230 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3:2:2)**
 Provides a foundation in the spatial theory that is the basis of geographic information systems, along with a basic understudy of the operating procedures and capabilities of GIS software.
 (Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 240 Maps & Remote Sensing (3:2:2)**
 Introduction to the principles of cartography and various types of remote sensing.
 (Fall, Summer)
- GEOG 320 Geography of North America (3:3:0)**
 The study of the physical and historical geography of North America as well as a consideration of the environmental, cultural, economic, and demographic processes reshaping this region.
 (Rotating Semesters.)

- GEOG 321 Geography of Developing Nations (3:3:0)**
 This course will focus on underdeveloped regions of the world to examine major themes related to development and underdevelopment, poverty, and wealth, equality and inequality.
 (Winter, Summer)
- GEOG 340 Advanced GIS and Spatial Analysis (3:2:2)**
 This course is a continuation of Geog 230 with an emphasis on spatial interpolation, spatial modeling, and use of locational knowledge in decision making. Present and potential applications of GIS and spatial theory in various disciplines are also explored.
 (Fall, Winter, Occasional Summer)
- GEOG 350 Cultural Geography (3:3:0)**
 The systematic study of various cultural geographic themes including population, language, religion, politics, ethnicity, and "pop culture".
 (Rotating Semesters)
- GEOG 398R Geography Internship (1-6:0:0)**
 An internship is a cooperative program between the BYU-Idaho Department of History, Geography, and Political Science and an approved organization. Professional internships correlate actual work experience with coursework; provide students with knowledge of career opportunities, and give students work experience in preparation for employment after graduation. Ideas for internships are developed by the student in consultation with the department internship coordinator.
 (Student Inquiry)