

Year 2008-2009
College Liberal Arts
Department Geography
Program Name Physical Geography
Program Code 313
Contact Dr. Richard Earl

Mission Statement

The General Geography program provides students with a highly specialized career goal: the option to design their own unique geography-related program in consultation with a faculty advisor. The General Geography program may also prepare students for graduate studies. In addition to general and specialized lecture-format courses, the program offers a variety of project-based lab and field-trip experiences, career development through advising, job-shadowing and internships as well as team-building and leadership opportunities available by joining one or more geography department student organizations. Finally, the General Geography program provides students with the foundation for a liberal education, preparing graduates to think independently, to choose free and to base personal and professional decisions on a broad understanding of the Earth's physical and cultural landscapes in order to live full, rewarding lives.

Outcome Number 1

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major physical features of the Earth and the ability to locate examples of Earth's major physical features on a map. We expect at least 70% of the students will meet or exceed expectations for this outcome.

Outcome Number 2

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major cultural features of the Earth and the ability to locate examples of Earth's major cultural features on a map. We expect at least 70% of the students will meet or exceed expectations for this outcome.

Outcome Number 3

Students will demonstrate knowledge of quantitative methods used by geographers and their ability to use statistical software to solve geographic problems. We expect at least 70% of the students will meet or exceed expectations for this outcome.

Outcome Number 4

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the foundations and theories of geographic information systems (GIS) and use the tools and methods of GIS. We expect at least 70% of the students will meet or exceed expectations for this outcome.

Outcome Number 5

Students will demonstrate their knowledge of physical geography and the methods and techniques for observing, measuring, recording and reporting on geographic phenomena; they will demonstrate this knowledge through embedded test items and a project. We expect at least 70% of the students will meet or exceed expectations for this outcome.