

Thinking of Transferring to a Four-Year
College or University?

Have you thought about GEOGRAPHY
at Texas State University in beautiful
San Marcos, Texas?



Texas State Geography

Texas State Geography boasts the largest undergraduate geography program in the United States. The *Journal of Geography*, the Association of American Geographers, and a National Program Effectiveness Survey has recognized Texas State Geography as among the best undergraduate geography programs in the nation. The National Council for Geographic Education has honored eleven of our faculty with the Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award - the most renowned teaching award in geography. In addition to traditional coursework, Texas State Geography's Internship Program provides students with supervised, real-world, work experiences directly related to their academic studies and career goals. Texas State Geography also offers highly acclaimed, field experiences to places such as Big Bend National Park, the Southwestern United States, Europe and Mexico, where students gain invaluable firsthand geographical knowledge while receiving academic credit. Texas State Geography also provides opportunities for students to participate in extra-curricular activities through our student organizations: Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU) - the Geography Honor Society; the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP); the Student Planning Organization (SPO); the Student Organization for Geographic Information Science (SOGIS); and Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG). Finally, Texas State Geography hosts numerous guest lecturers and symposia throughout the year and brings together geography students - past and present - at our annual Geography Alumni Reunion and Student Celebration each April. Check <http://www.geo.txstate.edu> for additional Texas State Geography Information.

Geography Careers

Geographers have a remarkable variety of careers to choose from. Texas State Geography students receive education and training in areas such as: water resource management, business and industrial site location, meteorology, hazard mitigation, resource assessment, environmental management, health services planning, solid waste management, air pollution control, demography, land use policy, management and conservation, transportation planning, river basin management and urban planning. Texas State Geography also provides students with valuable skills using the cutting-edge technologies of geographic information systems (GIS) global positioning systems (GPS), remote sensing and digital terrain modeling along with cartography (map-making) and quantitative methods (statistics). Check <http://uweb.txstate.edu/~mc12/geodocs.htm> for additional career information. Be sure to view our Geography Alumni Business Card Directory at <http://www.geo.txstate.edu/jobs/businesscards4thed.pdf>.

Transfer Students

Students transferring from a community college or other four-year institution should work closely with an academic advisor upon deciding to transfer. The College of Liberal Art and the Department of Geography host several informative orientation sessions for transfer students prior to each semester. Texas State University's CATWEB system provides transfer equivalency information for Texas Colleges and Universities at: http://catsweb.txstate.edu/catsweb/am/e000000_wb0.htm. Course grades transferred from other institutions are not used in calculating Texas State GPA requirements.



Department of Geography Texas State University

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Web Site: <http://www.geo.txstate.edu>

Degree Programs

Major Concentrations of Study: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree in Geography

- Resource and Environmental Studies
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Geography (General)

Major Concentrations of Study: Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree in Geography

- Resource and Environmental Studies
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Geography (General)
- Geographic Information Science
- Physical Geography
- Water Resources
- Geography with Secondary Social Studies Teacher Certification

MINORS

- Geography
- Nature and Heritage Tourism

CERTIFICATES

- Geographic Information Systems Certificate
- Water Resource Policy Certificate

The Undergraduate Geography Program

<http://uweb.txstate.edu/~mc12/geodocs.htm>

Geography Majors

The Undergraduate Geography Program offers a variety of major concentrations of study. Students choose a major concentration of study and either a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree depending on academic interests and career goals. Both the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree and the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree provide students programs and courses designed to increase their understanding of the world they live in and to help develop the analytical skills necessary to interpret and solve real-world problems.

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree requires a minimum of 30 semester hours of geography coursework, while the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree requires a minimum of 36 semester hours of geography coursework. Geography majors may include a maximum of two additional geography courses in their program to fulfill the requirements of either a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

General Education Core requirements for both degrees are listed in the University College section of the Texas State University catalog. Specific College of Liberal Arts degree requirements are listed in Table 1 below.

Texas State Geography also requires a minor in a field other than Geography for both the B.A. and B.S. degrees. Students should select their minor in consultation with an academic advisor. Suggested minors are listed with major concentration descriptions and requirements.

Minimum requirements for graduation include the following: 1) 128 semester hours of coursework (39 hours must be upper division 3000 / 4000 level courses and 9 hours must be (WI) writing intensive); 2) at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) for all Geography courses attempted at Texas State University; 3) at least a 2.5 GPA for all courses taken at Texas State University.

Table 1 - College of Liberal Arts Degree Requirements

	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)	Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
	30 Semester Hours (Minimum) of Geography	36 Semester Hours (Minimum) of Geography
Modern Language	4 semesters	2 semesters-waived if two years of the same language in high school
Literature	two literature courses	one literature course and one technical writing course (ENG 3303)

Geography Minor

Texas State Geography offers a wide range of content courses that can provide distinct career preparation and competitive advantages to many majors. Students pursuing a geography minor may choose to focus their studies in these areas: Urban Planning and Land Development; Water Studies; Geographic Information Science; Regional International Studies; Physical Geography/Earth Science; Environmental Resource Management; or Cultural Geography and Demographics. A geography minor requires a minimum of 19 semester hours including 9 hours of upper division (3000 - 4000) geography coursework. The geography minor requires: 1) GEO 2410; and 2) one of the following - GEO 1309, GEO 1310, or GEO 3303 - for a total of 7 semester hours; 3) students select an additional 12 - 18 semester hours of geography courses to complete the geography minor.

Nature and Heritage Tourism Minor

Nature and Heritage Tourism is the most rapidly growing segment of the overall tourism industry. The minor in Nature and Heritage Tourism concentrates on planning, development and management of nature and heritage tourism activities that have a strong learning content. A minor in Nature and Heritage Tourism requires a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework including 6 hours of core courses: NHT 4301 and NHT 4302, and 18 hours (from at least two departments outside of the student's major department from approved NHT course list).

Geography Certificates

Texas State Geography offers two certificate programs: 1) The Texas State Department of Geography Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Certificate; and 2) The Texas State Department of Geography Water Policy Certificate.

GIS Certificate

The Texas State Department of Geographic Information Systems Certificate provides the recipient with a working knowledge Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in sufficient detail that they are prepared for professional positions involving the theoretical and applied aspects of implementing and administering a Geographic Information System. To the prospective employer, the certificate is a professional endorsement that the recipient has received four university-level courses on issues fundamental to the design, implementation, and management of Geographic Information Systems. A formal certificate issued by the Texas State University, College of Liberal Arts and a statement on the recipient's Texas State University transcript recognize successful completion of the program. Requirements for Certificate: student must complete GEO 2426, 2427, 4426 & 4427 with no grade less than a "C" and a minimum GPA of 2.5 for the four courses.

For additional information and application process, discuss with an academic advisor or refer to <http://www.geo.txstate.edu/programs/certificate/gis/index.html>.

Water Policy Certificate

The Texas State Department of Geography Water Policy Certificate provides the recipient with a working knowledge of water resources in sufficient detail that they are prepared for professional positions involving water resources management and policy. To the prospective employer, the certificate is a professional endorsement that the recipient has received four university-level courses on issues fundamental to water resources management and policy. A formal certificate issued by the Texas State University, College of Liberal Arts and a statement on the recipient's Texas State University transcript recognize successful completion of the program.

Requirements for Certificate: student must complete GEO 3434, 4313, 4314 & 4335 with no grade less than a "C" and a minimum GPA of 2.5 for the four courses.

For additional information and application process, discuss with an academic advisor or refer to: <http://www.geo.txstate.edu/programs/certificate/water/index.html>.

Admission to the Undergraduate Geography Program / Pre-Major Requirements

Students who meet the university admission requirements enter the Undergraduate Geography Program as pre-majors. To become a major in geography, students must:

1. Complete the following: 1) GEO 1309 or 1310; 2) GEO 2410; and 3) GEO 3301 (10 semester hours total) with a GPA of at least 2.4.
2. Complete 45 or more credit hours with an overall Texas State GPA of at least 2.5.

Writing Intensive (WI) Requirements

Students must have nine hours of "writing intensive" coursework to graduate from Texas State University. Students who complete the two required American history courses (HIST 1310 and HIST 1320) as well as Philosophy 1310 - all General Education Core requirements at Texas State University - automatically fulfill the WI requirement. Transfer students who have completed these courses at other institutions will not receive WI credit for the courses and must fulfill the WI requirement with other course work completed at Texas State. Three hours of WI credit will be awarded for ENG 3303 (Technical Writing). Geography courses that fulfill the WI requirement:

GEO 3309, 3320, 3321, 4310, 4314, 4322, 4340, 4412, 4430. Students may also select (WI) courses from other academic departments to satisfy the writing intensive requirement. See an advisor if you need assistance in selecting courses that will fulfill your WI requirement.

Academic Advising

Texas State Geography provides extensive academic advising services which include group and individual advising. All geography major and minors are encouraged to seek advice each semester. Major concentration faculty and academic advisors can offer detailed program and course information as well as course checklists for each major concentration.

Steps to Graduation

1. Consult with an academic advisor or geography faculty member.
2. Declare intention to major in geography with the Department Academic Advisor, ELA 130.
3. Declare minor with Geography Department Academic Advisor.
4. Attend group advising sessions (scheduled prior to advanced registration fall and spring semesters) and/or consult with major concentration advisor.
5. After completing 45 semester hours of coursework, apply for a Degree Audit with the Geography Department Academic Advisor.
6. After completing 90 semester hours of coursework, apply for a Degree Audit Summary with a College of Liberal Arts Academic Advisor, Flowers Hall 322.
7. Apply for graduation on-line at <http://www.txstate.edu/liberalarts/news/gradonline.htm> during the first two weeks of the semester you plan to graduate.