

GEOGRAPHY, ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA)

Overview

Geography is the study of the physical environment, human activities and landscapes, through a spatial lens. Geographers study spatial distributions and relationships within Earth's human-environmental systems, incorporating historic and contemporary human activities within the context of the natural environment, as well as the emergence of humanity as one of the major agents of change on Earth. Geographers draw upon and develop theories in both physical and social sciences. As physical scientists, geographers study the processes and resulting features of the Earth's surface, including climate, hydrology, soils, landforms, and plant and animal adaptation. As social scientists, geographers investigate water and land use patterns, urbanization, economic growth and development, migrations, resource and energy use, globalization, and social justice.

The geography program exposes students to many of the tools and technologies employed by Earth science professionals, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). The Associate in Arts Degree in Geography provides for a liberal education and prepares one for positions in business, government, non-profit and non-government organizations, and academia. Coursework in geography prepares students for a wide range of jobs in technology and data science, teaching students to gather, manipulate, analyze, and report spatial data. There is rapid growth in the use of GIS in natural resource management, urban planning, marketing, real estate, criminology, emergency services, public health, scientific research, and many other areas.

Requirements

Associate Degree Graduation Requirements

Complete all of the following:

1. All Major Requirements listed below with a "C" or better or "P" in each course (at least 20% of the major requirements must be completed through SBCC).
2. One of the following General Education options:
 - a. OPTION 1: SBCC General Education (<https://catalog.sbcc.edu/degrees-certificates-awards/#associatedegree-text>) pattern OR
 - b. OPTION 2: Cal-GETC (<https://catalog.sbcc.edu/transfer-curricula/#iget-text>) pattern
3. A minimum of 60 semester units of degree-applicable college credit (SBCC courses numbered 100 and higher and C1000 and higher).
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher in degree-applicable coursework.
5. A minimum of 12 units through SBCC.

Code	Title	Units
Major Requirements		
Required Core		
GEOG 101/ ERTH 141	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 101L/ ERTH 141L	Physical Geography Laboratory	1

GEOG 102 or GEOG 104	Human Geography World Regional Geography	3
GEOG/ERTH 152 or GEOG 106	Weather and Climate Geography Of California	3
GEOG/ERTH 171	Introduction To Geographic Information Systems And Maps	2
GEOG/ERTH 172	Geographic Information Systems: Software Applications	2
List A - Complete 6 units of Controlled Electives from the following (courses used to meet the core cannot be used to also satisfy a controlled elective):		6
ANTH 103	Introduction To Cultural Anthropology	
BIOL 122 or BIOL 144 or BOT 121	Ecology Biogeography Plant Diversity	
ENVS/HIST 112 or ERTH 112	American Environmental History History Of The Earth	
ERTH/ENVS 116	Energy and Natural Resources	
ERTH 131 or ERTH 132 or ERTH 133	Geologic Field Studies - Eastern Sierra Nevada Geologic Field Studies - Death Valley Introductory Geologic Field Seminar - Colorado Plateau	
ERTH 151	Introductory Physical Oceanography	
GEOG 102	Human Geography	
GEOG 104	World Regional Geography	
GEOG 105/ ERTH 142 or ECON 101 or ECON 101H or ECON 102 or ECON 102H	Economic Geography	
GEOG 106	Geography Of California	
GEOG 107	Geography of The Middle East/North Africa and Southwest Asia	
GEOG 123	Geography field studies- Death Valley	
GEOG/ERTH 152	Weather and Climate	
GLST 101	Introduction to Global Studies	
GLST 102	Global Problems	
MATH/CS 118	Data Science for All	
STAT C1000 or PSY 150 or SOC 125	Introduction to Statistics Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences Introduction to Statistics in Sociology	
Total Units		20.00

Learning Outcomes

1. Describe and assess Earth's physical processes and their impacts on human culture and activities.
2. Describe and assess human cultural and economic activities and their impacts on Earth's physical environment.
3. Identify and implement the methods and technologies used in geographic spatial analysis (ex. GIS, remote sensing, spatial statistics, cartography and map analysis).

Recommended Sequence

Make an appointment with your SBCC academic counselor through Starfish to create a Student Education Plan that reflects a recommended course sequence for this program that is tailored to your individual needs.

How to schedule an Academic Counseling appointment (<https://www.sbcc.edu/counselingcenter/counselingappointments.php>).