

Department Mission/Purpose Statement

The mission of the geography program is to provide quality undergraduate and graduate education. The department provides a rich learning environment for students with close interactions between faculty and students, fieldwork, and the use of technology-enhanced instruction. The department is committed to providing students with essential knowledge and skills needed to succeed in graduate education or professional employment. Courses enhance student's perception and appreciation of the human and physical environments on earth, as well as the scientific method. Geography faculty also engage in original research in their respective areas of expertise. Students are actively engaged in this research at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The department also is an active participant in the community leading to internship opportunities in a wide variety of areas.

The geography program prepares students for careers and advanced study in urban and environmental planning, geographic information systems, cartography, remote sensing, and other areas of geographic research. Up-to-date computer laboratories within the department offer the latest in geo-information processing capabilities.

Degree Requirements

The Geography program offers BA and BS degrees in Geography along with a minor and concentrations in Geographic Information Systems and Travel & Tourism. The program also offers the geography and planning option within Environmental Studies. On the graduate level, the geography program offers an MA in geography, and a graduate certificate in Geographic Information Science.

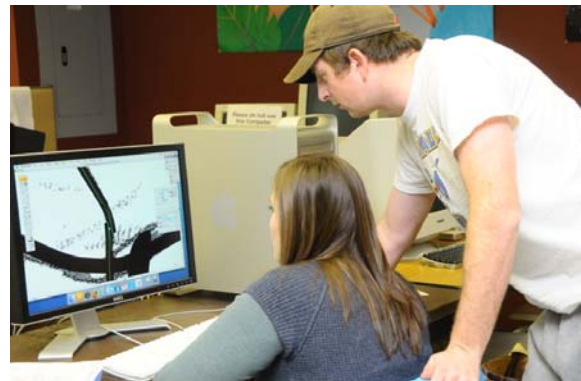
A Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in geography consists of 36 credit hours plus two years of college work in one foreign language or the equivalent as determined by the Department of Foreign Languages. Requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in geography are the same as for the B.A. except that in lieu of a foreign language, a similar number of courses in Mathematics and Computer Science are required.

An undergraduate concentration in Geographic Information Processing within the Bachelor of Science Program requires additional courses in Computer Science and specific upper-division courses in geography. The Travel & Tourism track examines the world's culture regions and the socio-economics of tourism.

The Environmental Studies Geography and Planning Option is primarily designed for the training of local and regional planning specialists who have a good understanding of environmental problems. The option is designed with sufficient depth to continue on to graduate school. The courses required are chosen with the intent that a student with a Bachelor's degree is competitive in the environmental job market. Only a B.S. degree is offered.

The Graduate Program in Geography provides training in geographic skills and opportunities for graduate work in a spectrum of systematic and scientific fields.

Students seeking the Master of Arts degree can choose one of two options: Option I, Thesis option (30 credit hours) with 24 hours of approved graduate work and 6 semester hours of thesis; and Option II, Non-Thesis with 36 credit hours of approved graduate courses. Individual programs of study are designed for incoming graduate students on the basis of previous course work and personal interviews. The *History and Philosophy of Geography* and *Research Methods* courses are required of all graduate students.



A total of 17 graduate credits are required to receive a graduate GIScience certificate at UNOmaha. The curriculum stresses spatial theory, oral and written communication, computer training, problem-solving skills, and GIS industry experience.

Departmental Strengths and Research Directions

The geography program is enriched by special programs and faculty research in cartography, remote sensing and geographic information science applied to urban landscapes, vegetation, plains and mountain environments; gender and work in the United States; geographic education; geoarchaeology in the Middle East; political economy of post-communist transformations in Central and Eastern Europe, foreign direct investment, car industry restructuring and regional development in Central and Eastern Europe.

Computer Facilities

The Department of Geography / Geology houses three state-of-the-art computer laboratories. The Cartography & GIS Laboratory consists of two separate computer labs. The Cartography Laboratory supports instruction in cartographic design with 8 Macintosh computers and Adobe Illustrator and



Photoshop. Software in the GIS laboratory includes ESRI ArcView, ArcGIS, MapObjects, MapINFO, SpaceStat, and Visual Basic. The laboratory has been recognized as an ESRI certified training facility.

The Remote Sensing and GIS Applications Laboratory (RSAL) is a sophisticated computational facility which facilitates instruction and research. Research grants and contracts have been funded by a variety of sources including Army Corp of Engineers, National Geographic Society, U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. Agency for International Development, University

of Nebraska, and the University of Nebraska Foundation. Hardware resources enable advanced computation analysis to be used to study environmental issues and problems. All computers and input and output devices are networked on a high-speed local area network.

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Interested in attending UNO? Here's your checklist on how to become a Maverick:

- Sign up for a MavSpace account to request information about UNO, register for a campus visit, and much more @ ses.unomaha.edu. Click on "MavSpace."
- Visit BEaMAV.com for information on financial aid, student life, housing, and to check out videos made by UNO students.
- Apply online for admission @ ses.unomaha.edu. Click on "Apply Now."

Need assistance? Call UNO Recruitment Services at 402-554-MAV1 or toll-free at 877-884-MAVS.