

Department Mission/Purpose Statement

The Geology Program in the Department of Geography/Geology is dedicated to educating students in the Geological Sciences. This program prepares students for a variety of careers, but, in particular, working in the geosciences field, including working in the growing environmental, energy, and minerals industries, in the policy making and education areas, as well as being prepared to continue on to graduate school.

Our faculty are known in the region for their expertise in the geology of the Midwest, structural geology, vertebrate paleontology, geochemistry, geoarchaeology, and global climate change. All faculty in the Geology program have active research in such diverse areas as western Nebraska, the western United States, the Arctic, the Himalayas, and the Middle East. Faculty encourage undergraduates to participate in their research and such participation has led to co-authored research publications and presentations by students at scientific meetings. The faculty are dedicated to having undergraduates participate in original geologic research and this philosophy is embedded throughout the curriculum. We would be delighted to talk with you about your interest in Geology and would be happy to discuss a possible major in this dynamic, growing field.

Degree Requirements

The Geology Program in the Department of Geography and Geology offers both a B.A. and B.S. in Geology as well as a minor. The B.S. is designed for the student who wants to work in the geologic field. We have designed three tracks within the Geology B.S. program.

The Graduate School Track is a standard/traditional Geology major that would prepare the student for admission into a Geology graduate program. This track would prepare the student to work in the Geologic industry as well. It includes 45 hours of Geology courses in addition to 30 hours in the cognate fields of Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics.

The Industry Track prepares the student to work in one of the Geologic industries. It includes 40 hours of Geology courses in addition to 35 hours in the cognate fields of Geography, Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics.

The General Track is designed for the student who is very interested in Geology but will probably pursue employment in another field.

The discipline and analytical skills learned in science can be very valuable in a wide range of non-science careers. This track will provide a strong science background for a student who might go on to attend law school, or become an educator, or go into business. This track has the most flexibility in its design. It includes 43 hours of Geology courses in addition to 12 hours in the cognate fields of Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics.

The B.A. is similar to the B.S. degree, except that it includes two years of college work in a foreign language.



General Education Requirements

A core concept of a liberal education is that students should become familiar with the range of methodologies by which knowledge is created and analyzed. Further, the liberally education person is, by definition, expected to have acquired knowledge in a wide array of disciplines. Thus, students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to take courses from each of the major discipline categories in the college. Study of the *humanities* deepens cultural understanding and provides one with familiarity with the means by which ideas are communicated and transformed through their expression in art and literature. The study of the *social sciences* develops one's understanding of human behavior and the function of individuals in social groups and institutions, as well as the relationships among individuals. A broad background in *science* is essential to the educated citizen in a world dominated by science based industry and technology, with their complex impact on human society and the natural environment.

Student Activities

The Geology Program has a very active student group, called the University of Nebraska at Omaha Geoscience Society (UNOGS) that is open to anyone with an interest in the Geosciences. This group plans fund raising activities, service projects, and educational outreach into the community. They also plan and lead local fieldtrips, as well as fund travel for members to attend geologic meetings. UNOGS has also organized journal nights, where students and faculty read geologic scientific articles and discuss them over pizza.

Special Opportunities

The Geology Program in the Department of Geography/Geology at UNO takes pride in its history of involvement of its undergraduate majors in research. It is our belief that the best way to learn science is to do science and feedback from our graduates tells us that the undergraduate research that our majors do is one of the most highly valued experiences that they had at UNO. We also take our students into the field as often as possible in classes and on a departmentally supported field trip in the Spring. This big field trip has gone to many far flung areas in the past, Ireland, Alaska, Death Valley, the Grand Canyon, as well as more local areas such as the Black Hills of South Dakota and the Lake Superior Region.

After College

Our graduates have gone on to successful careers in and outside of Geology. Many have gone to work for local, national and international environmental firms and governmental agencies. Others have gone to work in the minerals and energy fields. Still others have gone on to graduate school and are now teaching at Universities around the world.

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.