Love your major | Geology

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA
ARTS & SCIENCES

Geologists investigate the Earth, from tiny minerals to entire mountain chains and ocean basins. They search for mineral and energy deposits, help protect and clean up our environment, study climate change, and travel the globe studying the physical history of our Earth. So, as a Geology major, the world is your classroom—you might find yourself studying earthquakes here in Nebraska, or you might investigate ancient dinosaur tracks or even explore soils in the Appalachian Mountains or Italian Alps. Many students choose Geology as a major because they love the outdoors, hiking, camping and being out in nature and are curious about how and what the Earth looks the way it does.

One of the best parts of being a Geology major at UNO is that you will travel to interesting places to learn about geology around the world. Many of our courses involve weekend field trips, and you will have the opportunity to participate in longer excursions over Spring Break or after the Spring Semester ends. We have taken trips to Ireland, Iceland, Northern California, Death Valley, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, the Black Hills, and many other locations.

Because of their ability to help solve real-world problems, Geology majors are in demand in the job market. In the past 4 years, over 85% of our graduates have either obtained employment in the geology area, or have attended graduate school.

Course Highlights in Geology:

- **GEOL 1010: Environmental Geology** - Students learn about how humans impact our Earth's environment and how the Earth's environment impacts humans. Students also learn about Earth resources, waste disposal, and water resources (both in Nebraska and the world).
- **GEOL 2750: Mineralogy** - An introduction to minerals that make up the Earth. Learn about their occurrence, use, and how to identify the most common minerals in the Earth's crust.
- **GEOL 4330**: **Soil Genesis** - The study of the chemical, physical, and Biological properties of soil and soil formation processes.

Knowledge & Skills Gained as a Geology Major:

Knowledge:

- Identify earth materials, analyze forces that act within the earth to produce major features of the earth's crust
- Understand of processes that sculpt surface features
- Identify and recognize resources that are vital to modern societies and apply this knowledge to solve industrial and societal problems

Skills:

- Observation, data collection, analysis and interpretation
- Data visualization using state-of-the-art software
- Present and interpret information in a range of different mediums, e.g. textual, numerical, oral, graphical
- Written and verbal communication skills
- Data collection/sampling in the field
- Problem-solving skills and lateral thinking
- The ability to recognize patterns and understand complex systems

Geology Major at a glance:

Number of majors: 42

Degrees offered: B.A. and B.S.

Concentrations: General Track, Career Track

Credit hours needed: 40-49

Minors offered: Yes (17 credits)

University of Nebraska Omaha

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Career Opportunities:

By nature, Arts & Sciences majors make great employees in any field because of their ability to communicate effectively, think critically and solve complex problems. These timeless skills make them attractive to employers in all walks of society. Specifically though, Geology majors often pursue

- Environmental Counsulting + Engineering Firms
- Groundwater Management
- Petroleum Exploration
- Teaching Geology/Earth Science
- Mineral Exploration
- Natural Resource Manager
- Museum Curator of Fossils
- National Park Educator or Researcher

When the Geology major is matched with complementary minors and/or thoughtful internships, new possibilities arise. A few examples are:

- **Geology** + Physics = Geophysics (study earthquakes, explore for minerals or oil, etc.)
- **Geology** + Chemistry = Geochemistry (study the age and origin of rocks, study volcanoes, etc.)
- **Geology** + English = Scientific writer
- **Geology** + Biology = Environmental scientist
- **Geology** + Foreign Language = Geologists Without Borders (find new sources of fresh water for communities)
- **Geology** + Mathematics = Groundwater hydrologist

Student Opportunities:

- **UNO Geoscience Society (UNOGS)** - Student-run organization offering field trips, service activities, fund raising and social activities
- **Geological Society of America**
- **American Geophysical Union**
- **Nebraska Geological Society**
- **Departmental Scholarships**
- **FUSE** research grants

Did you know?

The field of Geology has been consistently ranked in the top ten professions in terms of employment for the past 4 years. During that time, over 85% of our graduates have either obtained employment in the geology field or have attended graduate school.

For more information:

For program information, contacts and course requirements visit:

www.unomaha.edu/cas

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