Geography

This section presents the requirements for programs in:

- M.A. Geography
- M.A. Geography with Specialization in African Studies
- M.A. Geography with Specialization in Data Science
- M.Sc. Geography
- M.Sc. Geography with Specialization in Data Science
- Ph.D. Geography
- Ph.D. Geography with Specialization in Political Economy

Program Requirements

M.A. Geography (5.0 credits)

Requirements:

1. 0.5 credit in:
   GEOG 5000 [0.5] Approaches to Geographical Inquiry

2. 2.5 credits in:
   GEOG 5909 [2.5] M.A. Thesis (which must be defended at an oral examination)

3. 0.5 credit in:
   GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

4. 1.0 credit from:
   GEOG 5002 [0.5] Quantitative Analysis for Geographical Research
   GEOG 5003 [0.5] Critical Approaches to Qualitative Inquiry
   GEOG 5005 [0.5] Global Environmental Change: Human Implications
   GEOG 5006 [0.5] Special Topics in Geography of the Environment
   GEOG 5201 [0.5] Special Topics in the Geography of Development
   GEOG 5400 [0.5] Territory and Territoriality
   GEOG 5406 [0.5] Special Topics in Cultural Geography
   GEOG 5500 [0.5] Special Topics in the Study of Cities and Urbanization
   GEOG 5502 [0.5] Special Topics in Geography of Globalization
   GEOG 5600 [0.5] Empire and Colonialism
   GEOG 5803 [0.5] Seminar in Geomatics
   GEOG 5804 [0.5] Geographic Information Systems
   GEOG 5900 [0.5] Graduate Tutorial
   ENST 4006 [0.5] Environmental Policy Analysis
   GEOG 4004 [0.5] Environmental Impact Assessment
   GEOG 4021 [0.5] Seminar in Culture, Identity and Place
   GEOG 4022 [0.5] Seminar in People, Resources and Environmental Change
   GEOG 4023 [0.5] Seminar in Special Topics on the City
   GEOG 4024 [0.5] Seminar in Globalization
   GEOG 4040 [0.5] Geographic Thought
   GEOG 4050 [0.5] Environmental and Geographic Education
   GEOG 4304 [0.5] Transportation Engineering and Planning
   GEOG 4323 [0.5] Urban and Regional Planning
   GEOM 4008 [0.5] Advanced Topics in Geographic Information Systems

Or from courses offered by departments in the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences or Public Affairs and Management

5. 0.5 credit in free elective

6. In addition to the formal requirements, M.A. students are required to attend the Departmental Seminar series, and the Graduate Field Camp.

Total Credits 5.0

M.A. Geography with Specialization in African Studies (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis option (5.0 credits)

1. 0.5 credit in:
   AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives

2. 0.0 credit in:
   AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies

3. 1.0 credit in:
   GEOG 5000 [0.5] Approaches to Geographical Inquiry
   GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

4. 2.5 credits in:
   GEOG 5909 [2.5] M.A. Thesis (in the specialization and including oral examination of the thesis)

5. 1.0 credit in approved graduate-level electives

6. In addition to the formal requirements, MA students are required to attend the Departmental Seminar series, and the Graduate Field Camp.

Total Credits 5.0

M.A. Geography with Specialization in Data Science (5.0 credits)

Requirements:

1. 0.5 credit in:
   DATA 5000 [0.5] Data Science Seminar

2. 0.5 credit in:
   GEOG 5000 [0.5] Approaches to Geographical Inquiry

3. 2.5 credits in:
   GEOG 5909 [2.5] M.A. Thesis (in the specialization and including oral examination of the thesis)

4. 0.5 credit in:
   GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

5. 1.0 credit in approved graduate-level electives

Total Credits 5.0
In addition to the formal requirements, M.A. students are required to attend the Departmental Seminar series, and the Graduate Field Camp.

**M.Sc. Geography (5.0 credits)**

**Requirements:**
1. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5001 [0.5] Modeling Environmental Systems
2. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop
3. **2.5 credits in:**
   - GEOG 5906 [2.5] M.Sc. Thesis (must be defended at an oral examination)
4. **1.0 credit in** Physical Geography selected from:
   - GEOG 5002 [0.5] Quantitative Analysis for Geographical Research
   - GEOG 5103 [0.5] Hydrologic Principles and Methods
   - GEOG 5104 [0.5] Advanced Biogeography
   - GEOG 5107 [0.5] Field Study and Methodological Research
   - GEOG 5303 [0.5] Geocryology
   - GEOG 5307 [0.5] Soil Resources
   - GEOG 5308 [0.5] Seminar in Geomatics
   - GEOG 5804 [0.5] Geographic Information Systems
   - GEOG 5900 [0.5] Graduate Tutorial
   - GEOG 4004 [0.5] Environmental Impact Assessment
   - GEOG 4013 [0.5] Cold Region Hydrology
   - GEOG 4017 [0.5] Global Biogeochemical Cycles
   - GEOG 4101 [0.5] Two Million Years of Environmental Change
   - GEOG 4103 [0.5] Water Resources Engineering
   - GEOG 4104 [0.5] Microclimatology
   - GEOG 4108 [0.5] Permafrost
   - GEOM 4003 [0.5] Remote Sensing of the Environment
   - GEOM 4008 [0.5] Advanced Topics in Geographic Information Systems
   - Or from courses offered by departments in the Faculty of Science

5. **0.5 credit in** free elective

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Notes**
1. Only 0.5 credit towards the program may be obtained in GEOG 5900 Graduate Tutorial
2. Only 0.5 credit may be obtained at 4000 level.

**M.Sc. Geography with Specialization in Data Science (5.0 credits)**

**Requirements**
1. **0.5 credit in:**
   - DATA 5000 [0.5] Data Science Seminar
2. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5001 [0.5] Modeling Environmental Systems
3. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

**Total Credits** 5.0

**Ph.D. Geography (10.0 credits)**

**Requirements:**
1. **1.0 credit in:**
   - GEOG 6000 [0.5] Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment
   - GEOG 6001 [0.5] Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment

2. **1.0 credit from:**
   - GEOG 6003 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change
   - GEOG 6004 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change
   - GEOG 6006 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Environmental Change
   - GEOG 6007 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Environmental Change

3. Presentation and oral defence of the thesis proposal as outlined below
4. **0.0 credit from:**
   - GEOG 6906 [0.0] Comprehensive Examination: The Geography of Societal Change
   - GEOG 6907 [0.0] Comprehensive Examination: The Geography of Environmental Change

5. **8.0 credits in** Thesis which must be defended at an oral examination

6. In addition to the formal requirements, Ph.D. students are required to attend the Departmental Seminar series and the Graduate Field Camp.

**Total Credits** 10.0

**Ph.D. Geography with Specialization in Political Economy (10.0 credits)**

**Requirements:**
1. **1.0 credit in:**
   - GEOG 6000 [0.5] Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment
   - GEOG 6001 [0.5] Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment

2. **0.5 credit in:**
   - PECO 6000 [0.5] Political Economy: Core Concepts

3. **0.5 credit from:**
   - GEOG 6003 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change
   - GEOG 6004 [0.5] Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change

4. **0.0 credit in:**
   - GEOG 6906 [0.0] Comprehensive Examination: The Geography of Societal Change

5. Presentation and oral defence of the thesis proposal as outlined below

6. **8.0 credits in Thesis which must be defended at an oral examination**

7. In addition to the formal requirements, Ph.D. students are required to attend the Departmental Seminar series and the Graduate Field Camp.

**Total Credits** 10.0

**Comprehensive Examination**
Each doctoral candidate is required to write one comprehensive examination: GEOG 6906 or GEOG 6907, according to the chosen field of specialization.

The comprehensive examination must be completed after course requirements for the Ph.D. have been completed. The examination will occur no later than the fourth term of registration in the Ph.D. program. Failure to complete the examination successfully will result in denial of permission to continue in the program.

**Thesis Proposal**
Candidates normally register in the thesis on entry to the program and work actively to define their research topic during the first term of registration. The thesis proposal is normally presented after comprehensive requirements have been fulfilled. Candidates submit and defend the thesis proposal at an oral examination no later than the end of the 5th term of registration in the Ph.D. program. Continuous registration is required after initial registration in the thesis.

**Residence Requirements**
All Ph.D. candidates must be registered full time in a minimum of six terms to satisfy the residence requirement.

**Regulations**
See the General Regulations section of this Calendar.

**Admission Requirements**
The requirement for admission into the master's program is a B.A.(Honours) or B.Sc. (Honours) in Geography or a related discipline, with at least B+ standing.

In exceptional cases, pertinent work experience may be considered in support of an application to the Department.

Students entering the program from other disciplines or with academic deficiencies may be required to take additional courses.

**Accelerated Pathway**
The accelerated pathway in the M.A. Geography program is a flexible and individualized plan of graduate study. Students in their final year of a Carleton B.A. or BSc. Honours degree in Geography, Geomatics, Environmental Studies or related discipline with demonstrated academic excellence and aptitude for research may qualify for this option.

Students in their third-year of study should consult with both their Undergraduate Program Coordinator and the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies Graduate Program Supervisor to determine if the accelerated pathway is appropriate for them and to confirm their selection of courses for their final year of undergraduate studies.

**Accelerated Pathway Requirements**
1. At least 0.5 credit in GEOG courses (5000 level) with a grade of B+ or higher excluding GEOG 5000, 5001 and 5905.
2. Minimum overall CGPA of A-.

Students may receive advanced standing with transfer of credit of up to 1.0 credit which can reduce their time to completion.

**Admission Requirements**
The normal requirement for admission into the M.Sc. program in Geography is a B.Sc. (Honours) or B.A. (Honours) in Physical Geography or a related discipline, with at least B+ standing.

Students entering the program from other disciplines or with academic deficiencies may be required to take additional courses.

The intended research area must be eligible for NSERC support.

Applicants for admission must provide an outline of their proposed project, which must be suitable for the M.Sc. program.

**Accelerated Pathway**
The accelerated pathway in the M.Sc. Geography program is a flexible and individualized plan of graduate study. Students in their final year of a Carleton B.A. or BSc. Honours degree in Geography, Geomatics, Environmental Studies or related discipline with demonstrated academic excellence and aptitude for research may qualify for this option.

Students in their third-year of study should consult with both their Undergraduate Program Coordinator and the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies Graduate Program Supervisor to determine if the accelerated pathway is appropriate for them and to confirm their selection of courses for their final year of undergraduate studies.

**Accelerated Pathway Requirements**
1. At least 0.5 credit in GEOG courses (5000 level) with a grade of B+ or higher excluding GEOG 5000, GEOG 5001 and GEOG 5905.

2. Minimal overall CGPA of A-.

Students may receive advanced standing with transfer of credit of up to 1.0 credit, which can reduce their time to completion.

Admission

The normal requirement for admission to the Ph.D. program is a master's degree (or the equivalent) in geography, with at least an A- average.

A student already registered in the M.A. or M.Sc. program who shows outstanding academic performance and research promise may be permitted to transfer to the Ph.D. program with a recommendation by the Departmental graduate committee.

Applicants whose academic preparation has deficiencies in certain areas may be admitted to the Ph.D. program with the requirement that they complete additional course work.

Admission to the Ph.D. program is granted on a full-time basis in September for the fall term.

Geography (GEOG) Courses

GEOG 5000 [0.5 credit]
Approaches to Geographical Inquiry
A review of the major philosophical perspectives shaping research and explanation by geographers. Particular attention is paid to interpretations of social structure and human action, the nature of the biophysical universe, and the interaction between human beings and their environments.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5001 [0.5 credit]
Modeling Environmental Systems
Methods and problems of research on the physical environment, with illustrative material taken from the atmospheric and surface earth sciences. Topics include: the identification and behaviour of environmental systems, temporal and spatial scale, experimental method under field conditions, and simulation and model development.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5002 [0.5 credit]
Quantitative Analysis for Geographical Research
Quantitative techniques and methods for research on the natural and cultural environment. Topics include sampling, experimental design, replication, variance, correlation, time series analysis, statistical uncertainty, simulation, calibration, validation.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5003 [0.5 credit]
Critical Approaches to Qualitative Inquiry
Development of critical skills in qualitative research by considering the relationship between theory and method. Engaged scholarship and participatory, community-based, action research. Practical experience with select methods including: interviews, personal narratives, focus groups, participant observation, archival research, discourse analysis, and visual methodologies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5005 [0.5 credit]
Global Environmental Change: Human Implications
Global environmental change: its significance for societies, economies and international relations. Value systems underlying environmental discourse; political economy of the environment; sustainability and security. Environmental diplomacy and grassroots environmentalism. Regionalized impacts of pressures on natural environments; challenges of adaptation.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Also listed as INAF 5701.

GEOG 5006 [0.5 credit]
Special Topics in Geography of the Environment
Research seminar on a selected theme within geographical approaches to environmental analysis. Topics will vary from year to year. Consult departmental web site for current details.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5103 [0.5 credit]
Hydrologic Principles and Methods
Advanced physical hydrology with emphasis on atmospheric moisture, precipitation, evaporation, infiltration, soil water physics, snow hydrology and runoff generation. Analytical approaches and methods to solve practical hydrological problems.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5104 [0.5 credit]
Advanced Biogeography
Current methods and theories in paleoecology are examined: dendrochronology, paleolimnology and other techniques for examining past climates and environmental condition. Numerical approaches to climate change studies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5107 [0.5 credit]
Field Study and Methodological Research
Field acquisition and analysis of geographic material; supervised field observations and methodology. (Individual or group basis, by special arrangement.).
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
GEOG 5201 [0.5 credit]  
Special Topics in the Geography of Development  
Research seminar within geographical approaches to development focusing on a selected theme or region. Topics vary from year to year. Consult departmental web site for current details.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5303 [0.5 credit]  
Geocryology  
Development of ground ice in permafrost regions of Canada; ice segregation and pore-water expulsion during ground freezing; analytical and numerical approaches to modeling permafrost conditions.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity  
Prerequisite(s): GEOG 4108 or permission of the Department.

GEOG 5307 [0.5 credit]  
Soil Resources  
Physical, mineralogical, chemical, and other properties of soils will be studied in agricultural, environmental, geomorphological and/or geotechnical contexts, as relevant to the students enrolled.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5400 [0.5 credit]  
Territory and Territoriality  
Contemporary geographical and international relations theorizing is challenging notions of boundaries and territories in the political organization of modernity. Using contemporary writings on geopolitics, security, sovereignty, self-determination and identity politics this course investigates territoriality as a political and intellectual strategy.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity  
Also listed as INAF 5402.

GEOG 5406 [0.5 credit]  
Special Topics in Cultural Geography  
Research seminar on a selected theme within cultural (including historical) geography. Topic varies from year to year. Consult departmental web site for current details.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5500 [0.5 credit]  
Special Topics in the Study of Cities and Urbanization  
Research seminar on a selected theme within geographical approaches to the study of cities and urbanization. Topics will vary from year to year. Consult departmental website for current details.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5502 [0.5 credit]  
Special Topics in Geography of Globalization  
Research seminar on a selected theme within geographical aspects of globalization. Topic varies from year to year. Consult departmental web site for current details.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5600 [0.5 credit]  
Empire and Colonialism  
Theoretical approaches to empire and colonialism: postcolonial, feminist, Indigenous, anti-racist, queer, decolonizing, and political-economic approaches. Consideration of a range of sites of imperial and colonial formation, including land, territory, nature, the body, sexuality, gender, and race, as well as forms of resistance, resurgence, and decolonization.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5701 [0.5 credit]  
Topics in Northern Human Geography  
Political, social, economic, cultural, and environmental geographies of the Canadian North and/or circumpolar North. Topics may include climate change, resource development, politics and governance, knowledge and expertise, geopolitics, sovereignty, colonialism, Indigenous knowledge, Indigenous self-determination, conservation and wildlife, environmental politics.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5803 [0.5 credit]  
Seminar in Geomatics  
Current research issues in geomatics, including remote sensing, geographic information systems, geographic positioning, and cartography. Topics will focus on combined interests of enrolled students and departmental faculty.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity  
Prerequisite(s): prior experience with GIS, GPS, remote sensing or cartography and permission of the department.

GEOG 5804 [0.5 credit]  
Geographic Information Systems  
GIS for students with no previous experience. Includes data formats and structures, input/output and analysis capabilities, and GIS applications.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5900 [0.5 credit]  
Graduate Tutorial  
Tutorial, directed reading or research, offered on an individual basis, to meet specific program needs; may be taken in one of the areas of specialization of the Department.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5905 [0.5 credit]  
Masters Research Workshop  
A workshop which focuses on the challenges of research design in the various sub-fields of geography. The workshop will culminate with the development and defence of a thesis research proposal.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 5906 [2.5 credits]  
M.Sc. Thesis  
Thesis supervision will be given in Physical Geography, as listed in the introductory section of this department's program description.  
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
GEOG 5909 [2.5 credits]
M.A. Thesis
Thesis supervision will be given in all areas of specialization of the Department, as listed in the introductory section of this department's program description.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6000 [0.5 credit]
Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment
Geographical perspectives on the development of society/environment interrelations in Western thought and critiques thereof. The course is designed to represent and address integrative issues in the two fields of the program, the geography of social change and the geography of environmental change.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6001 [0.5 credit]
Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment
Geographical perspectives on the development of society/environment interrelations in Western thought and critiques thereof. The course is designed to represent and address integrative issues in the two fields of the program, the geography of social change and the geography of environmental change.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6003 [0.5 credit]
Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change
Analysis of current geographical and related research into the three themes of global political economy: restructuring and the environment; geographies of socio-cultural evaluation; and feminist geographies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6004 [0.5 credit]
Field Seminar: Geography of Societal Change
Analysis of current geographical and related research into the three themes of global political economy: restructuring and the environment; geographies of socio-cultural evaluation; and feminist geographies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6006 [0.5 credit]
Field Seminar: Geography of Environmental Change
Analysis of geographical and related research into the appraisal and societal management of environmental resources, and environmental processes and anthropogenic impacts.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6007 [0.5 credit]
Field Seminar: Geography of Environmental Change
Analysis of geographical and related research into the appraisal and societal management of environmental resources, and environmental processes and anthropogenic impacts.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6906 [0.0 credit]
Comprehensive Examination: The Geography of Societal Change
This examination focuses on research challenges in theory and methodology in the themes of global political economy: restructuring and the environment; geographies of socio-cultural evaluation; feminist geographies. A specific theme will be identified for each candidate.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6907 [0.0 credit]
Comprehensive Examination: The Geography of Environmental Change
This examination focuses on research challenges in theory and methodology associated with the appraisal and societal management of environmental resources, and environmental processes and anthropogenic impacts. A specific theme will be identified for each candidate.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6909 [8.0 credits]
Ph.D. Thesis
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

Summer session: some of the courses listed in this Calendar are offered during the summer. Hours and scheduling for summer session courses will differ significantly from those reported in the fall/winter Calendar. To determine the scheduling and hours for summer session classes, consult the class schedule at central.carleton.ca

Not all courses listed are offered in a given year. For an up-to-date statement of course offerings for the current session and to determine the term of offering, consult the class schedule at central.carleton.ca