Geography

This section presents the requirements for programs in:

- M.A. Geography
- M.A. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in African Studies
- M.A. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change
- M.Sc. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change
- M.A. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Data Science
- M.A. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- M.Sc. Geography
- M.Sc. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Data Science
- Ph.D. Geography
- Ph.D. Geography with Collaborative 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 4201 [0.5] Seminar in Culture, Identity and Place
   GEOG 4222 [0.5] Seminar in People, Resources and Environmental Change
   GEOG 423 [0.5] Seminar in Special Topics on the City
   GEOG 424 [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 Collaborative Specialization in African Studies (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway (5.0 credits)

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

2. 0.0 credit in:
   AFR 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 Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change (5.5 credits)

Requirements:

1. 1.0 credit in:
   CLIM 5000 [1.0] Climate Collaboration

2. 0.0 credit in:
   CLIM 5800 [0.0] Climate Seminar Series

3. 1.0 credit in:
   GEOG 5000 [0.5] Approaches to Geographical Inquiry

Total Credits 5.0
M.A. Geography with Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change (5.5 credits)

Requirements:

1. **1.0 credit in:**
   - CLIM 5000 [1.0] Climate Collaboration

2. **0.0 credit in:**
   - CLIM 5800 [0.0] Climate Seminar Series

3. **1.0 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5001 [0.5] Modeling Environmental Systems
   - GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

4. **0.5 credit in:**
   - 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 5803 [0.5] Seminar in Geomatics
   - GEOG 5804 [0.5] Geographic Information Systems
   - GEOG 5900 [0.5] Graduate Tutorial
   - up to 0.5 credit in GEOG or GEOM at the 4000 level, with departmental approval

5. **3.0 credits in:**

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

Total Credits

5.5

M.Sc. Geography (5.0 credits)

Requirements:

1. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5001 [0.5] Modeling Environmental Systems
   - GEOG 5905 [0.5] Masters Research Workshop

2. **3.0 credits in:**
   - 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 5803 [0.5] Seminar in Geomatics
   - GEOG 5804 [0.5] Geographic Information Systems
   - GEOG 5900 [0.5] Graduate Tutorial
   - GEOG 5904 [0.5] Environmental Impact Assessment
   - GEOG 4004 [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

3. **0.5 credit in:**
   - GEOG 5906 [0.5] M.Sc. Thesis (must be defended at an oral examination)

4. 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.Sc. Geography

**with Collaborative Specialization in Data Science (5.0 credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 0.5 credit in: Data Science Seminar</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. 0.5 credit in: Modeling Environmental Systems</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 0.5 credit in: Masters Research Workshop</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 0.5 credit in: Physical Geography selected from:</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 5002 [0.5] Quantitative Analysis for Geographical Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5103 [0.5] Hydrologic Principles and Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5104 [0.5] Advanced Biogeography</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5107 [0.5] Field Study and Methodological Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5303 [0.5] Geocryology</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5307 [0.5] Soil Resources</td>
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<td>GEOG 5803 [0.5] Seminar in Geomatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5804 [0.5] Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 5900 [0.5] Graduate Tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>up to 0.5 credit in GEOG or GEOM at the 4000 level, with departmental approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. 3.0 credits in: M.Sc. Thesis (in the specialization and including oral examination of the thesis)</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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**Total Credits** 5.0

### Ph.D. Geography (2.0 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 1.0 credit in: Doctoral Core Seminar: Geography, Society and the Environment</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 6000 [0.5] &amp; GEOG 6001 [0.5]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 2.0

### 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 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.

**Accelerated Pathway**
The accelerated pathway in the M.Sc. Geography program is a flexible and individualized plan of graduate study. 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. 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 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 from the atmospheric and surface earth sciences. Topics include: the identification and behavior of environmental systems, temporal and spatial scales, experimental methods 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 [3.0 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
Examination of the production and use of geographical
knowledge, including underlying philosophies, key
theoretical concepts, and methodological approaches.
Discussion and integrative approaches to understanding
the geographies of environmental and social change.
Provides an opportunity for students to locate their
research interests within broader intellectual contexts.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

GEOG 6001 [0.5 credit]
Doctoral Core Seminar: Research and Professional
Practice
Geographical research situated within broader disciplinary
and institutional context. Exploration of various aspects
of professional practice (academic and non-academic
careers, pedagogical style, etc.). Research impact,
knowledge mobilization, engaged scholarship. Early thesis
proposal development.
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