

## Master of Arts in Geography

Department of Geosciences  
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The Department of Geosciences was formed January 1, 2006 from the Department of Geology and the Geography Program within the former Department of Anthropology and Geography. The graduate degree programs in the former departments of Geology and Anthropology-Geography are planned to be combined into the M.S. degree in Geosciences for 07-08 Academic Year. This new degree will have concentrations in Geography and in Geology. In the meantime, the M.S. degree in Geology, M.A. degree in Geography, the Certificate in Geographic Information Science and the Advanced Certificate in Hydrogeology continue as is for the 06-07 academic year.

Applicants may obtain additional information about the Department of Geosciences by contacting the Director of Graduate Studies at the addresses above.

## Master of Arts in Geography

The department offers the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in geography with thesis and non-thesis options. Students seeking the M.A. degree in geography may develop a specialization in urban studies, geospatial technologies, or physical geography/ environmental studies. Further information concerning specific courses applicable to each of these specializations is available in the departmental publication, *Guide to Graduate Studies in Geography*, which may be obtained from the department.

Students with professional goals are encouraged to enroll in the departmental internship course. Geography students have interned with a diverse group of sponsors, including local and regional planning agencies, federal and state governments, and numerous private corporations. Graduate credit earned in the internship course may be applied toward minimum credit requirements. Applications and internship qualifications can be obtained from the department.

Students in the geography program can pursue an M.S. degree with a concentration in earth science through a collaborative degree program with the geology department. The M.S. Degree in Geology with Earth Science concentrations follows all admission requirements of the M.S. degree in Geology; the degree is conferred by the geology department. The program has three concentrations: hydrologic sciences, natural resource management and environmental studies, and Geographic Information Science. Thirty-six hours are required for completion of this degree. Thesis and non-thesis options are available. Further information is provided at <http://monarch.gsu.edu/geosciences/>.

## Degree Requirements Geography

### Master of Arts in Geography

#### Thesis option (36 hours)

Early in their coursework, students must select advisers to direct their programs of study and to appoint their general examination and thesis committees. A timeline is provided in the *Guide to Graduate Studies*.

1. Geog 8001, Methods of Geographic Research, to be taken the first time offered after the student's admission to the program.
2. Cartography training equivalent to Geog 6518. This course may count toward the departmental minimum credit hour requirements.
3. Geog 6520, Quantitative Spatial Analysis (This requirement may be waived if student has equivalent training).
4. Nine semester hours of coursework at the 8000 level.

5. Remaining hours in student's area of specialization chosen from graduate level courses.
6. Six semester hours of Geog 8999, Thesis Research, (thesis option only) or three semester hours of Geog 8990, Research Practicum, (non-thesis option only).
7. Proficiency in a foreign language or in an approved research skill. Courses taken to fulfill this requirement may not count towards the departmental minimum credit hour requirements.
8. A general written and oral examination must be passed on or near the completion of coursework requirements.
9. Thesis (thesis option only).

### **Non-Thesis option (36 hours)**

Students taking the non-thesis option must take three additional semester hours of graduate level coursework in lieu of Geog 8999 and complete a non-thesis research project (Geog 8990 Practicum). Students may attempt to fulfill the practicum requirement twice, but only three semester hours of Geog 8990 can be counted toward their degree requirements.

### **Additional Admission Requirements in Geography**

In addition to the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Geosciences has the following admission requirements:

1. Applicants to the M.A. degree program in geography must submit three letters of recommendation from professional sources.
2. A statement of educational and career goals.