Departments and Programs in the College of Science

Biochemistry & Biophysics

Biology

Botany & Plant Pathology

Chemistry

Environmental Sciences

Geosciences

Mathematics

Microbiology

Molecular & Cellular Biology*

Physics

Pre-professional Programs in the Health Sciences

Professional Science Masters*

Science & Mathematics Education*

Statistics*

Zoology

*graduate program only

Geography

. . .people/earth relationships. Geographers study the earth and the relationships between earth and people. They are interested in learning more about the natural and the human worlds in order that this knowledge can be applied to guide environmental decisions. Geographers seek to generate scientific information about the environment and combine it with an understanding of human needs to work toward societal decisions which are both environmentally sensitive and compatible with the greater goals of society

Career Opportunities

Career opportunities are bright because OSU geography graduates are well prepared in issues concerning natural resources, the physical environment, land use planning and the latest computer mapping and analysis techniques. Such graduates fill many planning, and resource management positions in federal, state, city, and county agencies concerned with evaluation of resources, environmental issues, transportation, water resources and land use. Others work as specialists in cartography, remote sensing, or geographic information systems. Some recent graduates are employed by:

Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality

U.S. Department of Interior

U.S. Forest Service

Remote Sensing Firms

Bureau of Land Management

U.S. National Park Service

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Consulting firms

Washington Department of Ecology

Oregon GIS Service Center

Forest industry firms

Mapping firms

The Geography Program in the Department of Geosciences at Oregon State University has an international orientation aimed at enhancing global awareness while concentrating on the study and practice of physical geography, resource geography, and geographic techniques. Students may opt for a B.S. degree aimed at acquiring scientific and technical depth in their major, or for a B.A. degree aimed at the greater breadth characteristic of a liberal education. A full range of graduate degrees is also offered. .

Students acquire important skills in such advanced geographic techniques as remote sensing, computer mapping, and geographic information systems (GIS). A geographic information science certificate is available for students wanting to expand their technical expertise beyond that of the major. Students share in the work, the learning, and the excitement of faculty research projects. The following represent a few examples: International River Basin Conflict Resolution, Ecosystem Responses to Management Practices on the H.J. Andrews Research Forest, Sea-Floor Mapping at National Marine Sanctuaries, Development of Remote Sensing Techniques to Evaluate Environmental Changes Near Fossil Fuel Power Plants, and several GIS research studies that include topics ranging from coastal resource management information systems to GIS models of crop agriculture adaptation for the United States and China.

The Geosciences Department occupies Wilkinson Hall, a building especially designed for teaching and research in the earth sciences. Facilities include one of the nation's finest remote sensing/computer cartography/GIS teaching laboratories, and software/machinery for work with various image processing geographic information systems.

OSU Oregon State University

Geography

Course of Study

During the first two years, students will take courses approved for the baccalaureate core (BC) curriculum and statistics. Geography courses will include regional geography, introduction to earth science, environmental conservation, and map and image interpretation. Courses taken in the junior and senior years will depend on the specific degree and area of concentration.

Requirements for graduation include 48 credits needed for the BC. The major allows for at least 60 hours of elective credits so that students can tailor their programs to their needs and objectives. One-term internships with public agencies or private firms provide excellent opportunities for workplace experiences.

Sample Curriculum (B.S.* degree)

An official graduation checklist may be obtained from an advisor.

Freshman and Sophmore Years		credits
Geography of the Non-western World	GEO 105	3
Geography of the Western World	GEO 106	3
Physical Geology	GEO 201	4
Earth System Science	GEO 202	4
Mathematics 1	MTH 111 or higher	4
BC: Writing I, Writing II, Writing III	WR 121 plus other courses	9
BC: Fitness /Perspectives		6
BC: Physical or biological science	(3 courses)	12
Electives		29
Map & Image Interpretation	GEO 301	4
Statistics	ST 351, 352	8
Mathematiacs	MTH 112 or higher	4

Junior Year		credits
Intermediate Physical Geography	GEO 322, 323, 324	12
Human Geography	GEO 312	3
Cartography	GEO 360	4
Ecology	BI 370	3
BC: Contemporary global issues		3
BC: Science, technology, & society		3
Upper division cluster in non-geography field		9
Electives		8

Senior Year		credits
Resource Geography	GEO 420, 423, 424	9
Geosciences Field Techniques	GEO 462	4
Contemporary Eargh Science Issues	GEO 409	3
Upper division geographic techniques		3
Upper division regional geography		3
Geosciences electives	GEO 4xx	6
Professional seminar		1
Electives		16

*The curriculum for the B.S. and B.A. degree is identical in the freshman and sophomore years. It varies slightly in the junior and senior year. Additional information is available in the general catalog.

What to know about Oregon State University

Head Advisor
College of Science
128 Kidder Hall
541-737-4811

OSU Admissions
104 Kerr Administration
541-737-4411
800-291-4192

OSU Financial Aid
Student Employment
Loans & Scholarships
College Work Study
218 Kerr Administration
541-737-2241

OSU Registrar
102 Kerr Administration
541-737-4331

OSU Housing
102 Buxton Hall
541-737-4771

OSU Website
http://oregonstate.edu

For more information, please contact:

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0806

Experience.
Explore.
Discover
Achieve.

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Biology

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Chemistry

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