

# GEOGRAPHY, B.A. HONOURS

## Bachelor of Arts in Geography

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### Program Information

There are three areas where students can focus their course work in the B.A. in Geography program:

- *Resources, Environment and Society (RS)* focuses on the geographies of natural and human induced environmental processes in the recognition that current environmental change shapes relationships across all scales of society;
- *Global Politics, Justice, and Sustainability (GPS)* a global scale, integrated assessment of the links between the economic, socio-cultural, ecological and political systems that combine to shape the world in which we live; and
- *Culture, Identity and Space (CIS)* which emphasizes the dynamics between identity, culture and landscapes, with a particular focus on cooperation and conflict that produce local landscapes.

These areas reflect the expertise of the department and are not required for students in the program. A guide to these areas, and the courses that align with them, is published by the department.

The attraction of Geography as a discipline lies in its diverse interests and approaches to knowledge building while being centred on the fundamental concepts of human-environment relations, location/place and space/ distance. Geographers see the world and want to know how physical processes and systems shape the land, air, water, flora and fauna around them and how these are influenced by human activity. We want to know how human societies, cultures, and economies work and how these human systems are interdependent with each other and with natural systems. We work at a variety of geographic scales, from the micro-scale of local communities and regions, through the macro-scale of global human and physical systems. Human geography embraces the study of topics as wide-ranging as: human-environment relationships, globalization, social justice, attachment to place, recreation and tourism, climate change, and geopolitics. Therefore, by selecting courses from within the department, as well as complementary courses from other academic units of the University, students can develop fascinating, focused and challenging degree programs that will prepare them for careers in a variety of areas.

The General B.A. degree in Geography (90 credit hours, 30 in Geography) provides students with a basic level of understanding of the discipline and its inter-relationships. **This degree is also a useful consideration for students planning to complete the After-Degree Bachelor of Education program (see Faculty of Education (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/education/>)).** The General degree program may be completed entirely by Distance Education.

The Advanced B.A. degree program in Geography (120 credit hours, 51 in Geography) provides opportunities for students who desire a broad

geographical education along with a significant degree of specialization in a particular field of Geography.

Students planning a professional career, graduate school or a high degree of specialization in Geography are strongly advised to enter the Honours B.A. degree program (120 credit hours, 69 in Geography). The Honours degree demands the highest scholastic performance of all programs available. Students are strongly advised to enter an Honours degree program with their admission to the Bachelor of Arts in Geography. Consultation with the department head and Faculty academic advisors is also recommended.

### STRUCTURE OF THE B.A. GEOGRAPHY DEGREE PROGRAM

The structure of the B.A. Geography degree is summarized as follows:

A **Geography (Major)** component that varies in credit hour requirement depending on the degree program; 30 credit hours in the General; 51 credit hours in the Advanced; and 69 credit hours in the Honours. Students are not permitted to declare a second major.

Advanced and General degree students must complete a **Minor** in a subject field that is different than that of the declared major. Honours degree students may, if they choose, complete a Minor in a subject field that is different than that of the declared major. The minor may be chosen from one of the other programs in the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources or any program at the University that offers a Minor. Students in the B.A. Geography are not permitted to complete a Minor in Physical Geography. Refer to the Minor requirements as described in the Faculty Regulations (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Contact a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/undergraduate/advice/>) in the Faculty Dean's Office for further information about eligible Minors.

Students must complete 5 subject fields with 6 credit hours in each (30 credit hours). For example: 6 credit hours in Geography, plus 6 credit hours in Mathematics, plus 6 credit hours in Geological Sciences, plus 6 credit hours in Anthropology, plus 6 credit hours in Native Studies.

Students must also complete 6 credit hours from Humanities, and 6 credit hours offered by the Faculty of Arts, and 6 credit hours of science courses.

**Note:** Students can satisfy the requirement for Humanities, and/or Arts, or science and at the same time satisfy the Written English or Mathematics requirement and one of the 5 subject fields required with the same 6 credit hours of courses.

### Humanities

For course subjects taught by the Faculty of Arts that can be used towards the Humanities requirement, refer to the Faculty of Arts, Additional Faculty Regulations and Policies (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/arts/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Music (i.e. all courses listed for Advanced Major and Minor programs except ensemble courses) and History of Art (i.e. all courses listed with course prefix FAAH) may also be eligible courses. Students should see a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/undergraduate/advice/>) for further information.

**B.A. IN GEOGRAPHY - GENERAL: ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

To qualify for the degree Bachelor of Arts in Geography (General), students must complete 90 credit hours including: all course requirements; a chosen minor field; the requirements in the five subject fields; and areas of Humanities, Arts, and sciences. As well, students must satisfy the Riddell Faculty regulations (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Minimum performance requirements include passing grades ('D' or better) in each course and a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 2.00 on Geography courses as well as the 90 credit hours that constitute the degree. Students cannot exceed 48 credit hours of failed courses.

**B.A. IN GEOGRAPHY - ADVANCED: ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

To qualify for the Bachelor of Arts in Geography (Advanced) degree, students must complete 120 credit hours including: all course and performance requirements; a chosen minor field; the requirements in the five subject fields; and areas of Humanities, Arts, and sciences. As well, students must satisfy the Riddell Faculty regulations (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Minimum performance requirements include passing grades ('D' or better) in each course and a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 2.00 on Geography courses and the 120 credit hours that constitute the degree. Students cannot exceed 18 credit hours of failed courses.

**B.A. IN GEOGRAPHY - HONOURS: ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

To qualify for the Bachelor of Arts in Geography (Honours) degree, students must complete 120 credit hours including: all course and performance requirements; the requirements in the five subject fields, and the areas of Humanities, Arts and sciences. As well, students must satisfy the Riddell Faculty regulations (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext>). Minimum performance requirements include passing grades ('D' or better) in each course and a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 3.00 on Geography courses and the 120 credit hours that constitute the degree. Students cannot exceed 18 credit hours of failed courses.

**Advanced Entry Requirements**

Students are required to attain a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 2.00 based on the Degree Standards Table to be eligible for admission to the B.A. in Geography. Students who are admitted will be placed in the General degree program. Students may be eligible for transfer to either the Advanced or Honours degree program provided they satisfy the entrance requirements defined below. To enter the Advanced or Honours degree program, a student must consult with a Riddell Faculty student advisor in the Faculty Dean's Office.

**DEGREE PROGRAM IN B.A. GEOGRAPHY - HONOURS**

**Minimum Number of Credit Hours:** 24

**Minimum Degree Grade Point Average:** 3.00

**Maximum Credit Hours of Failed Courses:** 18

**Additional Entrance Requirements:** Grade of 'B' from GEOG 1280, GEOG 1290<sup>1</sup> and/or GEOG 1700/GPE 1700 or a GPA of 3.00 or better in all Geography courses

**DEGREE PROGRAM IN B.A. GEOGRAPHY - ADVANCED**

**Minimum Number of Credit Hours:** 24

**Minimum Degree Grade Point Average:** 2.00

**Maximum Credit Hours of Failed Courses:** 18

**Additional Entrance Requirements:** grade of 'C' from GEOG 1280, GEOG 1290<sup>1</sup> and/or GEOG 1700/GPE 1700

**DEGREE PROGRAM IN B.A. GEOGRAPHY - GENERAL**

**Minimum Number of Credit Hours:** 24

**Minimum Degree Grade Point Average:** 2.00<sup>1</sup>

**Maximum Credit Hours of Failed Courses:** 48

**Additional Entrance Requirements:** grade of 'C' from GEOG 1280, GEOG 1290<sup>2</sup> and/or GEOG 1700/GPE 1700

**Grade Point Average Calculation for Entrance and Continuation**

General degree students in the B.A. Geography must attain a minimum 2.00 Grade Point Average at each point of assessment. The Degree Standards Table listed below is used to determine a student's eligibility for admission to the Riddell Faculty as well as evaluate a student's performance after each term.

**DEGREE STANDARDS TABLE**

Credit Hours	Minimum Degree GPA
24-30	1.8
33-45	1.85
48-60	1.90
63-75	1.95
78-90	2.00
93+ hours	2.00

**Minimum Performance Requirements**

A student's academic performance is assessed first with his/her application for admission to the Riddell Faculty and then following each *term* in which the student is registered in more than 4.0 credit hours. To be in **good standing** and permitted to continue in a degree program, a student must achieve the minimum standards outlined for his/her degree program at each point of assessment. For General degree students, this includes the Degree Standards Table, (p. 2) as well as the requirements outlined in Minimum Performance Requirements for Continuation and Graduation. (p. 3) Students in the Advanced and Honours degrees are required to satisfy the requirements listed in 5.3.1. Minimum academic performance is based on the degree Grade Point Average and number of failed courses. Prior to each registration, Advanced and Honours degree students must have their course selections approved by a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/undergraduate/advice/>). Students may not make any subsequent changes without receiving prior written permission.

To graduate with a B.A. Geography with the intended degree designation, a student must achieve the minimum performance standards and graduation requirements following their last term of registration and satisfy all faculty and degree requirements in Geography as defined in minimum performance standards and graduation requirements and in the B.A. Geography Honours Program. (p. 2)

Students in the Honours and Advanced degree programs who do not meet these minimum performance requirements will be withdrawn from their existing program and placed in the Advanced and General degrees respectively. Students who do not meet the minimum performance requirements for the General degree program will receive an academic warning, be placed on probation or academic suspension as defined Academic Warning, Probation, Academic Suspension and Special Students (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/>)

environment-earth-resources/#Academic-Warning) (Academic Standing). Students withdrawn from the Honours degree program may be eligible to enter the Advanced program and are required to obtain permission from a Riddell Faculty student advisor (<https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/environment/undergraduate/advice/>).

Students withdrawn from the Honours degree program will have the notation, 'Required to Withdraw from the Honours Program', recorded on their transcript. Similarly, students withdrawn from the Advanced program will have the notation, 'Required to Withdraw from the Advanced Program', recorded on their transcript.

**MINIMUM PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUATION AND GRADUATION**

Degree Program (Cr. Hrs.)	Minimum Degree Grade Point Average (DGPA)	Maximum Cr. Hrs. Failed Courses	Minimum Degree GPA in Geography Courses <sup>1</sup>	Geography Courses Cr. Hr. Requiremen	Residence Requirement (Cr. Hrs.) <sup>3</sup>
Honours <sup>4,5</sup> (120)	3.00	18	3.00	69	60
Advanced <sup>1,4,5</sup> (120)	2.00	18	2.00	51	60
General <sup>1,4</sup>	2.00 <sup>6</sup>	48	2.00	30	48 cr. hrs. total or the final 30 cr. hrs.

<sup>1</sup> General and Advanced degree students are required to maintain a Degree Grade Point Average of 2.00 on the courses defining their Geography Major. **Note:** Students must complete all prerequisite courses with minimum "C" grades.

<sup>2</sup> See B.A. Geography-Honours (p. 1)

<sup>3</sup> See Faculty Requirements- Residence Requirements (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/#facultyacademicregulationstext>)

<sup>4</sup> Within the first 60 credit hours of courses, students must have completed 6 credit hours in each of 5 subject fields (totalling 30 credit hours). See Program information in Bachelor of Arts Geography

<sup>5</sup> The courses required in this program may satisfy the university mathematics requirement (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/general-academic-regulations/>) and the science course requirement if selecting SOC 2290.

<sup>6</sup> See Grade Point Average Calculation for Entrance and Continuation

**Graduating with Distinction or First Class Honours**

**WITH DISTINCTION**

Students graduating with a B.A. Geography (General) degree will have their degree granted 'With Distinction' if they have a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 3.80 and provided a minimum of 60 credit hours of acceptable course work is completed at the University of Manitoba.

Students graduating with a B.A. Geography (Advanced) degree will have their degree granted 'With Distinction' if they have a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 3.80 and provided a minimum of 90 credit hours of acceptable course work is completed at the University of Manitoba.

**FIRST CLASS HONOURS**

Students in the Honours program will have their degree granted with 'First Class Honours' if they have a minimum degree Grade Point Average of 3.80 and provided a minimum of 90 credit hours of acceptable course work is completed at the University of Manitoba.

**Systematic (HS, PS, TS) and Area Studies (A) Courses**

Courses numbered at the 2000- and 3000-level are arranged into Systematics (PS – Physical Geography, HS – Human Geography, TS Techniques) and Area Studies (A).

Courses offered for the current academic term are published in the Class Schedule in Aurora and can be searched by Attribute Type. To find Systematic (HS, PS, TS) courses search: 'Geography: Human', 'Geography: Physical' or 'Geography: Techniques'. To find Area Studies (A) courses search: 'Geography: Area Studies'.

**Degree Requirements**

120 Credit Hours (69 credit hours in Geography)

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Year 1</b>		
6 credit hours of the following:		6
GEOG 1280	Introduction to Human Geography	
GEOG 1290	Introduction to Physical Geography <sup>1</sup>	
GEOG 1700	Social Justice in the 21st Century: Global Political Economy and Environmental Change	
6 credits from Humanities <sup>2</sup>		6
18 credit hours of Electives		18
<b>Hours</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
6 credit hours of the following:		6
GEOG 2520	Geography of Natural Resources (HS)	
GEOG 2640	Geography of Culture and Inequality (HS)	
GEOG 2870	Introduction to Economic Geography (HS)	
12 credit hours in Geography courses numbered at the 2000- or 3000-level		12
12 credit hours of Electives		12
<b>Hours</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
GEOG 3730	Geographic Information Systems (TS) <sup>3</sup>	3
One of the following:		3
ENVR 2810	Environmental Critical Thinking and Scientific Research <sup>4</sup>	
WOMN 3000	Interdisciplinary Research in Women's and Gender Studies <sup>5</sup>	
ANTH 3930	Ethnographic Research Methods <sup>5</sup>	
SOC 2290	No Longer Offered	
18 credit hours in Geography courses numbered at the 2000- or 3000-level		18
6 credit hours of Electives		6
<b>Hours</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Year 4</b>		
GEOG 4660	Honours Thesis	6
18 credit hours in Geography courses numbered at the 4000- level		18

6 credit hours of Electives	6
<b>Hours</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>120</b>

- <sup>1</sup> GEOG 1290 satisfies 3 of the required 6 credit hours of Science courses. Students in the Honours or Advanced degree programs will satisfy the Science requirement via other required course work. Students in the General degree selecting this course must complete an additional 3 credit hours of Science courses. General degree students electing GEOG 1280 or GEOG 1700 must complete 6 credit hours from science courses.
- <sup>2</sup> May also satisfy the Faculty of Arts requirement.
- <sup>3</sup> Students wishing to transfer from the General to the Advanced or Honours degree program are permitted to take GEOG 3730 in either third or fourth year.
- <sup>4</sup> The former GEOG 2530 may be used in lieu of ENVR 2810.
- <sup>5</sup> In order to register in these courses, students must have fulfilled the prerequisites.

**Notes:**

- Equivalent courses offered through Université de Saint-Boniface may be used in lieu of the specified courses identified in the degree program chart.
- Entrance into the Honours and Advanced degree programs is summarized in Advanced Entry Requirements (<https://catalog.umanitoba.ca/undergraduate-studies/environment-earth-resources/environment-geography/geography-ba-advanced/#Honours-Entry-Requirements>).
- The W and M requirements must be completed within the first 60 credit hours.
- To fulfil prerequisite requirements, a grade of "C" must be achieved, unless otherwise stated, in any course stipulated as a prerequisite to a further course.
- Students should review the current course topics available through GEOG 3740, GEOG 3750, GEOG 3760, GEOG 3770 and GEOG 4670. Also, all courses are not offered every year or every term. The course schedule for the current academic term is available from the Class Schedule in Aurora ([https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/banprod/bwckschd.p\\_disp\\_dyn\\_sched/](https://aurora.umanitoba.ca/banprod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched/)).
- Students registering in certain courses may be required to participate in field trips or field components and pay a portion of the associated expenses. For details, contact the Department of Environment and Geography ([geography\\_environment@umanitoba.ca](mailto:geography_environment@umanitoba.ca)) general office.