

GEOGRAPHY & GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE, BALAS

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences in Geography & Geographic Information Science

A Bachelor of Arts in Geography & Geographic Information Science prepares students to explore the social science aspect of modern geography. Curriculum includes the systematic study of human social organization and its environmental consequences.

Employment opportunities for human geographers include urban and regional planning, transportation, marketing, real estate, tourism, and international business.

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Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours
 Minimum required major and supporting course work: A minimum of 35 credit hours of Geography & Geographic Information Science courses. Twelve (12) hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300 and 400 level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree, including courses outside of GIS. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement. The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog.

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements		
	Composition I	4-6
	Advanced Composition	3
	Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
	Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
	Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
	fulfilled by GIS 101 or GIS 104 or GIS 106 or GIS 210 or GIS 221 or GIS 254 and any other course approved as Social & Behavioral Sciences	
	Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3

Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
Language Requirement (Completion of the fourth semester or equivalent of a language other than English, or completion of the third semester in two different languages other than English is required)	0-20

Code	Title	Hours
Orientation and Professional Development		
LAS 101	Design Your First Year Experience	1
OR		
LAS 100 & LAS 101	Success in LAS for International Students and Design Your First Year Experience	3
OR		
LAS 102	Transfer Advantage	1

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Geography & GIS Core Requirements		10-12
Physical Geography Course (Select one):		
ATMS/GGIS 100	Introduction to Meteorology	
GGIS 103	Earth's Physical Systems	
GGIS 220	Landscapes, Ecosystems and Environmental Change	
GGIS 222	Big Rivers of the World	
Human Geography Course (Select one):		
GGIS 101	Global Development & Environment	
GGIS 104	Social and Cultural Geography	
GGIS 106	Geographies of Globalization	
GGIS 210	Social & Environmental Issues	
GGIS 221	Geographies of Global Conflict	
GGIS 254	People, Places, and Environments of the US	
GIS Course (Select one):		
GGIS 371	Spatial Analysis	
GGIS 379	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	

Code	Title	Hours
Students must choose one of the following concentrations:		
	General Geography (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-balas/general-geography/)	
	Human Geography (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-balas/human-geography/)	
Concentration Credit Hours Required		25-27

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Sample Sequence

This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic

advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a fourth level of a language other than English. See the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

First Year	
First Semester	Hours
LAS 101	1
Human Geography Core Course	3
Composition I or General Education course	4
Language Other Than English (3rd level)	4
General Education course	3
	15

Total Hours 15

First Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Physical Geography Core Course	4
General Education course	3
General Education course or Composition I	3
Language Other Than English (4th level)	4
	14

Total Hours 14

Second Year	
First Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
Concentration Coursework	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
	15

Total Hours 15

Second Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
Concentration Coursework	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
	15

Total Hours 15

Third Year	
First Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
GGIS 379 or 371	4
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
	16

Total Hours 16

Third Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
Concentration Coursework	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
	15

Total Hours 15

Fourth Year	
First Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	4
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	2
	15

Total Hours 15

Fourth Year	
Second Semester	Hours
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
	15

Total Hours 15

Total Hours: 120

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Geographic Understanding

GGIS students will understand the interconnectedness of places and scales in human-environmental systems, including the sustainability of those systems.

Spatial Patterns and Processes

GGIS students will be able to analyze spatial patterns, distributions, processes, and connections within and among different human-

environmental systems, using qualitative, quantitative, computational, and/or spatial methods of research appropriate to their level of training and their field of geographic inquiry.

Problem-Solving and Communication

GGIS students will be able to formulate and conduct geographic analyses and communicate the results in verbal, written, and visual form.

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Major in Computer Science & Geography & GIS, BSLAS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/eng_las/computer-science-geography-geographic-information-science-bslas/)
- Major in Geography & Geographic Information Science, Geographic Information Science Concentration, BSLAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-bslas/geographic-information-science/>)
- Major in Geography & Geographic Information Science, Physical Geography Concentration, BSLAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-bslas/physical-geography/>)

For the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Major in Geography & Geographic Information Science, General Geography Concentration, BALAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-balas/general-geography/>)
- Major in Geography & Geographic Information Science, Human Geography Concentration, BALAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geography-geographic-information-science-balas/human-geography/>)

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Department of Geography & Geographic Information Science (<https://ggis.illinois.edu/>)

Geography & GIS Faculty directory (<https://ggis.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)

Geography & GIS undergraduate advising (<https://ggis.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate/advising/>)

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

College of LAS homepage (<https://las.illinois.edu/>)

Admissions

LAS Admissions & Requirements (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/>)

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Undergrad Admissions (<https://www.admissions.illinois.edu/>)