

GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, B.A.

Juneau

The Geography B.A. degree in Environmental Studies provides broad cultural background in the liberal arts with an emphasis on Alaska and the Arctic. The B.A. also provides a geographic perspective based on these regions and prepares students for careers in management, policy, teaching, field-based research, regional planning and private sector careers. The B.A. develops a strong foundation for advanced studies in a wide range of academic disciplines. Students may complete the Geography/Environmental Studies B.A. with an Emphasis in Outdoor Studies. This emphasis provides focus on outdoor sport and recreation and field experience in outdoor and adventure settings. Program assessment plans and student learning outcomes are posted at the Program Assessment website (<https://uas.alaska.edu/provost/assessment/program-assessment1.html>).

Admission Requirements

Students are admitted to the program after declaring a Geography and Environmental Studies major to an academic advisor in the Geography program. Students will be assigned an advisor in the Humanities, Social Science, or Natural Science department depending on their interests. Students should consult with their advisor for course selection and sequencing. Additional admission requirements exist for the Emphasis in Outdoor Studies. Please visit uas.alaska.edu/ods (<https://uas.alaska.edu/ods>) for specific application and admission requirements.

Candidates must complete the General Education Requirements (GERs) (<http://catalog.uas.alaska.edu/general-education-requirements>) as well as the specific program requirements listed below for a minimum of 120 credit hours. Courses in a degree program may be counted only once. Courses used to fulfill the major requirements cannot be used to fulfill the GERs. Specific requirements for GERs are listed below. The degree must include 42 credits of upper-division (300 or above) courses. To satisfy the residency requirement, 30 credits must be completed at UA, including 24 upper division credits. Candidates who expect to teach in public secondary schools should seek advising from the UAS School of Education. An overall major course GPA average of 2.50 or better is required for successful completion of the degree.

Students should consult with an advisor and select courses that satisfy prerequisites required in this degree program.

Requirement	Hours
Minimum Credit Hours	120
General Education Requirements	36
Major Requirements	45
Breadth Requirements	15
Electives	39

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Complete all General Education Requirements.		36
Major Requirements ¹		

GEOG S101	Local Places, Global Regions: Introduction to Geography	3
GEOG S102	Earth and Environment	4
GEOG S312	Humans and the Environment	3
GEOG S338	Introduction to GIS	3
GEOG S490	Geography Seminar	2

Earth Systems and Geographic Analysis

Select six credits of the following:		6
ENVS S422	Earth's Climate System	
GEOG S210	Temperate Rainforest Ecosystems	
GEOG S309	Mobile GIS Technology and Applications	
GEOG S406	Remote Sensing	
GEOG S410	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG S415	Biogeography and Landscape Ecology	
GEOL S301	Geomorphology	
GEOL S302	Hydrology	

Or other advisor approved courses

Human-Environment

Select nine credits of the following:		9
ANTH S342	Arctic Anthropology	
ANTH S408	Ethnobiology	
ECON S435	Natural Resource/ Environmental Economics	
ENGL S303	Literature and the Environment	
GEOG S313	Sustainable Resource Management	
PHIL S371	Perspectives on the Natural World	
SOC S404	Environmental Sociology	

Or other advisor approved courses

Breadth Requirements

Select fifteen credits of the following:		15
ANTH S314	Archaeology of Southeast Alaska	
ANTH S428	Tlingit Culture and History	
ANTH S475	Alaska Native Social Change	
ENGL S363	Nature Writing	
ENGL S365	Literature of Alaska: Native and Non-Native Perspectives	
ENGL S370	Native American Literature	
ENGL S423	Ecocriticism	
GEOG S407	Snow Hydrology	
GEOG S414	Biogeochemistry	
GEOL S300	Geology of Alaska	
HS S206	Introduction to Environmental Health	
ODS S243	Introduction to Outdoor Leadership	
ODS S244	Outdoor Leadership	

Or other advisor approved courses

Electives

Complete elective requirements. ¹		39
Total Credits		120

¹ To include upper division classes as needed (42 credit minimum). Classes should be selected in consultation with an advisor and students are encouraged to include a minor. No more than 6 credits from the major can be used toward a minor.

Outdoor Studies Emphasis

In order to enroll in ODS designated courses, students must provide ODS application materials and be accepted into the ODS Emphasis Program.

Requirement	Hours
Minimum Credit Hours	120
General Education Requirements	34
Major Requirements	68
ODS Emphasis Requirements	20
Breadth Requirements	18

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Complete all General Education Requirements.		34
Major Requirements		
GEOG S101	Local Places, Global Regions: Introduction to Geography	3
GEOG S102	Earth and Environment	4
GEOG S312	Humans and the Environment	3
GEOG S338	Introduction to GIS	3
GEOG S490	Geography Seminar	2
Electives ¹		6
ODS Emphasis Requirements		
ODS S120	Wilderness First Responder	4
ODS S243	Introduction to Outdoor Leadership	3
ODS S244	Outdoor Leadership	2
ODS S245	Outdoor Leadership Capstone	1-4
ODS S444	Expedition Planning and Leadership	2
ODS S445	Outdoor Studies Emphasis Capstone	2-4
HUM S270	Sport, Leisure and Culture	3
PHIL S371	Perspectives on the Natural World	3

Outdoor Skills

Select twelve credits of the following:		12
ODS S112	Swiftwater Rescue	
ODS S114	Backpacking in Southeast Alaska	
ODS S115	Winter Backpacking in Southeast Alaska	
ODS S116	Introduction to Rock Climbing	
ODS S117	Introduction to Ice Climbing	
ODS S118	Avalanche Evaluation and Theory I	
ODS S119	Introduction to Fly Fishing, Tying, and Casting	
ODS S133	Introduction to Sea Kayaking	
ODS S134	Introduction to Swiftwater Travel	
ODS S148	Backcountry Skiing and Snowboarding	
ODS S205	Backcountry Navigation	
ODS S216	Rock Climbing Level II	

ODS S217	Ice Climbing Level II	
ODS S218	Avalanche Evaluation and Theory Level II	
ODS S221	Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue Fundamentals	
ODS S222	Mountaineering I	
ODS S233	Expedition Sea Kayaking ²	
Other approved ODS skills courses		
<i>Earth Systems and Geographic Analysis</i>		
Select one of the following:		3-4
ENVS S422	Earth's Climate System	
GEOG S210	Temperate Rainforest Ecosystems	
GEOG S406	Remote Sensing	
GEOG S410	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG S415	Biogeography and Landscape Ecology	
GEOL S301	Geomorphology	
GEOL S302	Hydrology	
Or other advisor approved courses		
<i>Human-Environment</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ANTH S342	Arctic Anthropology	
ANTH S408	Ethnobiology	
ECON S435	Natural Resource/ Environmental Economics	
ENGL S303	Literature and the Environment	
GEOG S313	Sustainable Resource Management	
SOC S404	Environmental Sociology	
Or other advisor approved courses		
Breadth Requirements		
Select nine credits of the following:		9
ANTH S314	Archaeology of Southeast Alaska	
ANTH S428	Tlingit Culture and History	
ANTH S458	Alaska Native Economic and Political Development	
ENGL S363	Nature Writing	
ENGL S365	Literature of Alaska: Native and Non-Native Perspectives	
ENGL S370	Native American Literature	
ENGL S423	Ecocriticism	
GEOG S407	Snow Hydrology	
GEOG S414	Biogeochemistry	
GEOL S300	Geology of Alaska	
HS S206	Introduction to Environmental Health	
Or other advisor approved courses		
Breadth Electives		
Complete Breadth Electives. ³		18
Total Credits		120

- ¹ To include upper division classes as needed (42 credit minimum).
Classes should be selected in consultation with an advisor and students are encouraged to include a minor. No more than 6 credits from the major can be used toward a minor.
- ² May be repeated for up to 3 credits
- ³ 12 credits of breadth electives must be upper division.