GEOGRAPHY (GPY)

The degree program in Geography consists of 10 courses (41 hrs. total), 5 of which are core courses required of all majors. Further, students choose either the Urban or Environmental track for their remaining courses. Both tracks offer an applied and techniques orientation for the students, which is stressed through coursework, advising, and through the core course structure for the major. The Environmental track focuses on major environmental systems including the hydrosphere, atmosphere, pedosphere, and biosphere. Particular emphasis is placed on the human modification of the natural environment and the global interconnections of the major earth systems. The Urban track focuses on the social and spatial effects of the growth of cities, including issues such as the historical evolution of urban form and function, land-use changes and conflicts, economic restructuring, the growth and decline of inner-cities, and urban racial and ethnic relations.

Requirements for the Major in Geography

Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites)

Students wishing to transfer to USF should complete the A.A. degree at the community college. Some courses required for the major may also meet General Education Requirements thereby transferring maximum hours to the university. If students transfer without an A.A. degree and have fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit, the students must meet the university’s entering freshman requirements including ACT or SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements.

The transfer student should also be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university.

Upper-level Course Requirements

A major in Geography consists of 11 courses as follows:

Required core courses (6 courses + lab):
- GEO 3013 Intro to Physical Geography (3)
- GEO 3013L Intro to Physical Geography Lab (1)
- GEO 3402 Human Geography (4)
- GEO 3180 Digital Thematic Mapping (4)
- GEO 3164C Quantitative Methods (4)
- GEO 4933 Geography Colloquium (1)
- GEA XXXX One course with GEA prefix (4)

Supporting Courses (5 courses):
Majors will select among courses in the Urban and Environmental tracks for their additional coursework. They must take an additional 5 courses, 2 of which may be outside of their track. If more than 1 course is taken outside of the track, 1 of them must be a techniques (elective) course. The following list designates supporting courses by track (or elective techniques).

Urban Track Courses:
- GEO 3602 Urban Geography (4)
- GEO 4502 Economic Geography (4)
- GEO 4604 Advanced Urban Geography (4)
- GEO 4700 Transportation Geography (4)
- GEO 4470 Political Geography (4)
- URP 4052 Urban and Regional Planning (4)
- GEO 4421 Cultural Geography (4)
- GEO 4340 Natural Hazards (4)

Environmental Track Courses:
- GEO 4201C Advanced Physical Geography (4)
- GEO 4210 Process Geomorphology (4)
- GEO 4280C Hydrology (4)
- GEO 4340 Natural Hazards (4)
- GEO 4372 Global Conservation (4)
- MET 4002 Climatology (4)
- MET 4010C Meteorology (4)
- GEO 4300 Biogeography (4)

Techniques Courses (electives):
- GEO 4114C Geographic Techniques and Methodology (4)
- GEO 4131C Remote Sensing of the Environment (4)
- GEO 4151C Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (4)

Courses Excluded as Electives for the major:
- GEO 1930 Geography of Current Events (4)
- GEO 4900 Directed Reading (1-4)
- GEO 4910 Individual Research (1-4)

Requirements for the Minor in Geography

A minor in Geography consists of 16 credit hours, with a minimum grade-point average of 2.0. The required courses are:

- GEO 3013 (3)  GEO 3013L (1)  GEO 3402 (4)

One GEA elective (4) and one upper level GEO, MET or URP elective (3000-5000 level) (4).