

FORM TO REQUEST SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO AN EXISTING UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

A request for substantial changes to an existing program requires approval from the school director/department head (managing administrator), college academic dean, Curricular Affairs, Undergraduate Council (UGC), and College Academic Administrators Council (CAAC). Additional approvals may be required, depending on the requested changes. Complete this form and submit to [Office of Curricular Affairs](#) no later than October 23, 2020 to be considered for inclusion in the 2021-2022 Academic Catalog.

I. Requested by (College & School/Department):

School of Geography, Development, and Environment

II. Proposer's name, title, email and phone number:

Lise Nelson, Associate Professor, lnelson@arizona.edu, 520-621-5551

III. Degree, major and number of students enrolled in the major. If you have emphases (sub-plans), list the number of students enrolled by emphasis: BA

BA in Geography, 25 students in the major.

IV. Describe proposed changes to the major. Provide a rationale and explanation for making changes to the major and include any relevant supporting data. Are the changes proposed a result of Annual Program Review (APR) and/or a result from the assessment of programmatic outcomes? If you are requesting a name change, please indicate if the subject code (course prefix) will also change. Include requested new prefix code and description.

The proposed changes to our major stem from a January 2020 retreat undertaken by the faculty of the School of Geography, Development and Environment. We reviewed and discussed our undergraduate curriculum. The proposed changes are an outcome of those discussion, and seek to create clearer scaffolding in the BA curriculum, including an introductory sequence, a set of “core” courses at the 300 level, and a set of advanced electives at 300 or 400-level courses.

The current major has less scaffolding and requires 17 credits of electives, a list of courses that includes 200-level classes. The proposed changes narrows the list of electives for the major to 300 and 400-level courses, assuring that students get sufficient upper division coursework in addition to a “core” sequence in human geography. The revised major also narrows significantly the list of methods courses available to BA Geography students, as including every method in the offered in the school was unrealistic. We eliminated courses on that list that have a prerequisite. Two small minor changes include re-titling our regional course requirement from “Regional Non-U.S.” to “Regional Course.” In addition, for BA students also completing a minor in Geographic Information Systems, they only need to take 3 units (not 6) in the methods section of the curriculum—the total credits for the major remain the same.

We do not expect these changes to the major to increase students' time to degree because we offer multiple options in each category every semester. We are increasing the number of upper division courses required for students, but this is in line with our comparator institutions and provides students more robust training in the field.

- V. **Comparison Chart**—complete the chart below using your existing [academic advisement report](#). You may not need to complete all portions. Highlight row(s) indicating the proposed significant changes. You can find course information to help complete the chart below by using the [UA course catalog](#) or [UAnalytics](#) (Catalog and Schedule Dashboard> “Printable Course Descriptions by Department” On Demand Report; right side of screen).

	Existing Major Requirements	Requirements Modified Major
Major, emphasis (if applicable) and degree *	BA in Geography	BA in Geography
CIP Code –lookup here or contact the Office of Curricular Affairs for assistance, if needed	45.0701	45.0701
Total units required to complete the degree*	120	120
Upper -division units required to complete the degree	42	42
Total CC transfer units that may apply to this degree*	64	64
Foundation courses		
Math		No change
Second Language		No change
General Education		
Tier I GE Requirements (150, 160, 170)		No change
Tier II GE Requirements (Arts, HUMS, INDV, NATS)		No change
Pre-major? (Yes/No)	No	No
List any special requirements to declare or gain admission to this major (completion of specific coursework, min GPA, interview, application, etc.)	None	None
Minimum # of units required in the major (units counting towards major units and major GPA)	36 units	36 units
Minimum # of upper-division units required in the major (upper division units counting towards major GPA)	18 units	24 units
<u>Minimum # of residency units to be completed in the major</u>	18 units	18 units
Required supporting coursework (courses that do not count towards major units and major GPA, but are required for the major). Courses listed must include prefix, number, units, and title. Include any limits/restrictions in place/needed (house number limit, etc.). Provide email(s)/letter(s) of support from home department head(s) for courses not owned by your department.	None	none

Major requirements. List all major requirements including core and electives. If applicable, list the emphasis^ requirements. Courses listed count towards major units and major GPA. Courses listed must include prefix, number, units, and title. Mark new coursework (New). Include any limits/restrictions in place/needed (house number limit, etc.). Provide email(s)/letter(s) of support from home department head(s) for courses being added and are not owned by your department. Recommend ordering requirements in the same order as your advisement report.

Existing Major Requirements	Requirements Modified Major
<p>Introduction to Human Geography (3 units)</p> <p>GEOG 210: Political & Cultural Geog of Globalization GEOG 251: World Regions GEOG 256: Sustainable Cities & Societies</p> <p>Introduction to Physical Geography (3 units)</p> <p>GEOG 220: Our Diverse Biosphere GEOG 230: Our Changing Climate GEOG 240: Our Dynamic Landscape</p> <p>Methods (6 units)</p> <p>GEOG 222: Working Numeric, Spatial and Visual Data GEOG 303: Field Study in Environmental Geog GEOG 330: Introduction to Remote Sensing GEOG 357: Geographical Research Methods GEOG 403: Applications of GIS GEOG 416A: Computer Cartography GEOG 416C: Urban GIS GEOG 416D: PPGIS Participatory Approaches in GIS GEOG 416E: Geovisualization GEOG 416F: GIS for Social Sciences GEOG 417: GIS for Natural and Social Sciences GEOG 419: Cartographic Modeling Natural Resources GEOG 420: Advanced GIS GEOG 424 Integrated GIS GEOG 457: Statistical Techniques in Geography, Regional Development and Planning GEOG 469: Water Resource Assessment GEOG 483: Geographical Applications of Remote Sens. GEOG 490: Remote Sensing for the Study of Planet Earth.</p> <p>Non-US Regional (3 units)</p> <p>Any GEOG 311 course</p> <p>Major Electives (17 units)</p> <p>11 units: any GEOG course numbered 200-499 6 units: any GEOG course numbered 300-499</p> <p>Senior Capstone (3 units)</p> <p>GEOG 404: The Politics of Nature GEOG 407: American Landscape</p>	<p>Introduction to Human Geography (6 units)</p> <p>GEOG 205: Places in the Media GEOG 210: Political & Cultural Geog of Globalization GEOG 250: Southwest Borderlands Enviro & Soc GEOG 251: World Regions GEOG 252: Global Borders, Migration & Refugees GEOG 256: Sustainable Cities & Societies GEOG 270: Sports Geographies</p> <p>Introduction to Physical Geography (3 units)</p> <p>GEOG 220: Our Diverse Biosphere GEOG 230: Our Changing Climate GEOG 240: Our Dynamic Landscape</p> <p>Methods (6 units)*</p> <p>GEOG 222: Working Numeric, Spatial and Visual Data GEOG 303: Field Study in Environmental Geography GEOG 330: Introduction to Remote Sensing GEOG 357: Geographical Research Methods GEOG 416A: Computer Cartography GEOG 417: GIS for Natural and Social Sciences</p> <p>Regional (3 units)</p> <p>Any GEOG 311 course GEOG 312 Native American Geography</p> <p>Human Geography Core (6 units)</p> <p>GEOG 302: Sustainable Development GEOG 305: Economic Geography GEOG 340: Cultural Geography GEOG 367: Population Geography GEOG 370: Urban Growth & Development GEOG 372: Gender & Geography GEOG 373: Political Geography GEOG 374: Geography, Social Justice & Environment</p> <p>Advanced Electives (9 units—minimum 3 graded units 400-499)**</p> <p>GEOG 304: Water, Environment & Society GEOG 350: Beer and Beverages GEOG 362: Environment & Development GEOG 363: Climate Change: Human Causes, Social Consequence and Sustainable Responses.</p>

GEOG 365: Human Rights, Immigration Enforcement, US-Mex Borderlands
 GEOG 368: Green Economy
 GEOG 370: Geography of International Development
 GEOG 375: Metropolitan Tucson
 GEOG 378: Global Human Rights
 GEOG 380: Global Agriculture and Intl Relations
 GEOG 404: Politics of Nature
 GEOG 407: American Landscape
 GEOG 423: Latino Urbanization
 GEOG 431: Traditional Ecological Knowledge
 GEOG 445: Geographies of International Environmental Governance
 GEOG 455: Regional Geographies
 GEOG 462: Environmental Law, Geography & Society
 GEOG 465: Global Cities: Urbanization, Globalization, Citizenship
 GEOG 466: Middle Eastern City & Islamic Urbanism
 GEOG 468: Water and Sustainability
 GEOG 497F: Community and School Garden Workshop

Senior Capstone (3 units)

GEOG 498 Senior Capstone
 GEOG 498H Senior Thesis

**Students pursuing a GIS minor can take minimum of 3 units of methods; this does not change total credits required for the major.*

***A maximum of 3 credits from the following can count toward advanced electives: Any course from either the "Regional" or "Human Geography Core" lists; or internship, independent study or workshop courses:*

GEOG 392A, 393, 395A, 396, 396H, 397A, 397B, 397C, 397D, 399, 399H, 499, 499H

Internship, practicum, applied course requirements. (Yes/No). If yes, provide description.	No change	No change
Senior thesis or senior project required (Yes/No). If yes, provide description.	No change	No change
Additional requirements (provide description)	No change	No change
Minor (optional or required)	No change	No change

*May require Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) approval

^Emphases are officially recognized sub-specializations within the discipline. [ABOR Policy 2-221 c. Academic Degree Programs Subspecializations](#) requires all undergraduate emphases within a major to share at least 40% curricular commonality across emphases (known as "major core"). Total units required for each emphasis must be equal.

- VI. Peer institution comparison-** describe how your modified major requirements are similar and different from major requirements of two peer institutions. Select peers from (in order of priority) [ABOR approved institutions](#), [AAU members](#), and/or other relevant institutions recognized in the field.

Ohio State University BA in Geography: Requires 33 semester units for the major. All majors must take 9 units that are the same: an introductory human geography class, a capstone experience (titled “Geographic Inquiry”) and a professionalization seminar. Beyond that students have choices within particular categories. They require 6 units of methods, similar to ours, and ask students to take 6 units of intermediate courses that are akin to our “Human Geography Core” list. Ohio State has regional courses, but include those in the intermediate list rather than a separate requirement. Finally, Ohio State asks for 9 units of advanced courses that are all at the equivalent of our 400-level classes. In total Ohio State requires more 400-level courses (21 units) than our major, which requires 24 credits upper-division that includes 300 and 400-level courses (a student at a minimum in the Arizona major will need to take 6 units of 400-level, most will take more). While there are some remaining differences between the proposed major and the BA in Geography at Ohio State, our proposed revisions do reflect a similar strategy: dividing electives into intermediate courses and advanced electives.

Michigan State University BA in Geography: Requires 36 semester units for the major. All students take the same two introductory human geography courses (6 units), and one introductory physical class (3 units). They require a regional course (3 units—similar to our major) and three techniques / methods courses (9 units), as well as a senior capstone (3 units). Remaining requirements are all electives, 6 units at the 300-level and 6 units at the 400-level. Like our proposed major, these requirements ask majors at Michigan State to take 24 units at the 300 and 400 levels. This comparative institution major echoes some of the revisions to our BA, in terms of a clear scaffolding of intermediate and advanced courses.

- VII. Faculty impact-** indicate if new faculty hires will be required to deliver the proposed modified/new curriculum.

These proposed changes do not require new faculty hires as it is not an expansion of the curriculum, it is a re-ordering of the categories and requirements of the major to create more scaffolding and rigor for students. The only new course that will need to be offered yearly is the Senior Capstone course, GEOG 498, but that will be taught with existing faculty resources.

- VIII. Budgetary impact-** indicate new resources needed and source of funding to implement the proposed changes. If reallocating resources, indicate where resources will be taken from and the impact this will have on students/faculty/program/unit.

There is no expected budgetary impact of this proposal, as it does not include the creation of new courses.

IX. Required signatures

Managing unit administrator (print name and title): ___Diana Liverman_____

Managing administrator's signature: _____ *Diana Liverman* _____ Date: 6/11/2020

Managing unit administrator (print name and title): _____

Managing administrator's signature: _____ Date: _____

Dean (print name): Amy C. Kimme Hea

Dean's signature: _____  _____ Date: 11/6/2020

Dean (print name): _____

Dean's signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: In some situations, signatures of more than one unit head and/or college dean may be required.

For use by Curricular Affairs:

Committee	Approval date
Academic Programs Subcommittee	
Undergraduate Council	
College Academic Administrators Council	
Arizona Board of Regents (if applicable)	

- Notify proposers of approval
- Upload proposal documents to relevant UAccess tables
- Notify ADVIP team and proposers

If ABOR approval required :

- If applicable, create approval memo
- Send memo to college/dept and acad_org listserv.
- If applicable, create new plan code (secondary too)
- If applicable, update emphases
- If applicable, add last admit term to prior plan code(s)
- Upload proposal docs to relevant UAccess table values
- Notify ADVIP team and proposers