

M.A. IN GEOGRAPHY

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
GEG 602	Geographic Thought and Analysis	3
GEG 603	Research Design in Geography	3
GEG 680	Spatial Data Analysis I	3
GEG 691	Geographic Information Systems I	3
Select one of the following:		3
GEG 610	Survey Research Methods	
GEG 681	Spatial Data Analysis II	
GEG 692	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
Select one of the following options:		2-12
Master's Thesis		
GEG 810	Master's Thesis	
GEG 820	Research in Residence	
Advanced Independent Study		
GEG 625	Advanced Independent Study in Geography I	
GEG 645	Advanced Independent Study in Geography II	
Electives		6
Total Credit Hours		30

Suggested Plan of Study

Year One		
Fall		Credit Hours
GEG 602	Geographic Thought and Analysis	3
GEG 680	Spatial Data Analysis I	3
GEG 691	Geographic Information Systems I	3
		Credit Hours
		9
Spring		
GEG 603	Research Design in Geography	3
Select one of the following:		3
GEG 610	Survey Research Methods	
GEG 681	Spatial Data Analysis II	
GEG 692	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
Elective		3
		Credit Hours
		9
Year Two		
Fall		
GEG 625 or 810	Advanced Independent Study in Geography I or Master's Thesis	6
Elective		3
		Credit Hours
		9
Spring		
GEG 645 or 820	Advanced Independent Study in Geography II or Research in Residence	6
Elective		3
		Credit Hours
		9
		Total Credit Hours
		36

- * Students completing the Graduate Geospatial Certificate Program concurrently with the MA degree must complete GEG 692 and use one of the electives for a course that satisfies the Certificate Program requirements.
- ** Students completing the two-paper option take GEG 625 and GEG 645; Students completing the Thesis Option take GEG 810 and GEG 820.

Mission

The Department of Geography and Regional Studies (GEG) seeks to encourage the rigorous investigation of human-environment interactions and the analysis of spatial patterns and trends related to societal processes. It reaches across disciplines to draw on a range of methods, theories, and perspectives that help us to understand how ideas and structures result from the interaction of space, time, and place. The department's core objective is to foster the examination, open discussion, and lively debate of geographic issues and urban studies among faculty and students from all fields of study, enriching the undergraduate curriculum and the university's academic mission through greater communication across disciplines and colleges. Its aim is to broaden, deepen, and transform the learning community at UM and beyond.

Goals

Our graduate program (MA) aims to prepare students for positions in teaching, government, non-governmental organizations, private business, urban and regional planning, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing (RS), resource management, and environmental analysis. The program focuses on three thematic areas: development studies, environmental analysis, and globalization and urban change. In addition, students can take courses in geospatial technology and learn marketable skills for today's job market: GIS, digital cartography, satellite remote sensing, land use and land cover analysis, survey research, and spatial statistics. During their studies, our students develop global citizenship, being able to see the global problems by using different lens, and develop skills to work effectively in multi-cultural environments and collaborative settings.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will have advanced understanding of the concepts and theories in both human and physical geographies and will be able to select and use advanced tools and methods to measure and assess spatial-temporal patterns and processes, the interrelationships between people and places, and the interactions between people and nature.
- Students will integrate and apply advanced concepts and theories in human and physical geographies and apply critical thinking to conduct an original research project.
- Students will demonstrate effective, advanced and original written, cartographic, and oral communication.