

Geography Specialization

Program Description:

The program emphasizes environmental geography, with coursework in human geography, physical geography, and geospatial analysis techniques. Faculty expertise includes economic geography, cultural geography, historical geography, urban planning, natural hazards planning, biogeography, climatology, soils, agriculture, paleoclimatology, and GIS. Regional specializations include Canada, the American West, and East Asia. Students have access to research facilities including the Spatial Analysis Lab, the Huxley Tree-Ring Lab, the Huxley Soils Lab, the Planning Studio, two research units: the Resilience Institute and the Spatial Institute.

Goals:

The MA in environmental studies and geography prepares students to address complex problems related to human-environment interactions using a highly interdisciplinary approach. The program prepares students in the collection, analysis, interpretation, and communication of geographic data and the application of geographic theories to further our understanding of the spatial patterns of physical and biological processes, human societies and practices, and human-environment interactions. This degree prepares students for careers in business, government, planning, consulting, teaching, geospatial data management and analysis, and research.

Specialization Requirements

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Minimum of 45 credits are required, including:

- 7 credits of core classes: ENVS 501 (3), ENVS 502 (3), ENVS 503 (1)
- 26 credits of depth and specialization course work, including at least three courses from the area of specialization, or course substitutions, under advisement;
- 12 credits of ENVS 690 (thesis) or ENVS 691 (Field Project)

500-level GEOG Specialization Courses

- ENVS 520 - GIS III: Analysis and Modeling
- ENVS 521 - GIS IV: Advanced GIS Applications
- ENVS 522 - Advanced Spatial Analysis
- ENVS 526 - Understanding Soil Data
- ENVS 528 - Advanced Topics in Biogeography
- ENVS 529 - Pyrogeography
- ENVS 530 - Borderlands: Resource Management
- ENVS 531 - Pacific Rim: Environment, Economy, and Sustainability
- ENVS 543 – Social Justice and the City

400-level GEOG Specialization Courses

- ENVS 410 - Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture
- ENVS 419 - Applications in GIS
- ENVS 423 - GIS Processing and Analysis
- ENVS 426 - Water Resources
- ENVS 441 - Society, Space, and Natural Resources
- ENVS 442 - Regional Environmental and Economic Resource Modeling
- ENVS 444 - Colonial Landscapes in the Pacific Northwest