

Geography

“Geographers explore our world. We do this by synthesizing our knowledge of the natural environment with an understanding of how people create the places in which we live. This exciting field includes the study of natural hazards, urban environments, and the geographies of globalization. To gather and analyze information on such topics, geographers use geospatial technologies as well as field measurement and observation.”



Dr. Jackie Gallagher, chair

New students considering majoring in geography should take either **GEOG 101** or **GEOG 102** during their first semester. During their freshman or sophomore year they should take **GEOG 110 & 111** in a fall-spring sequence to meet major requirements as well as the General Education Requirement for Natural Science.

Careers in geography are many and varied. The Department of Geography at UMW is well-established, providing a friendly and helpful environment with opportunities for research and travel as well as individual attention. We have many alumni in the region and a strong record of advising and placing students in internships. We love our students and want you to love your time at Mary Washington!

Geography major and non-major students considering the **GIS certificate program** and/or our **5-year Master of Science in Geospatial Analysis** should take either **GEOG 250** or **GISC 200** within their first year. Either course is a gateway into **the GIS certificate program** which is excellent for Geography majors and compliments majors in most social sciences as well as Environmental Science, Biology, Computer Science, Historic Preservation, Economics and Business. GEOG 250 or GISC 200 will also fulfill the 200-level methods requirement for Geography majors.

Below please find some examples of first semester schedules for a geography major. There are many variations of a first semester schedule; the examples are just meant to help you see that there are many ways to reach the same goals.

**Department of
Geography**

**Monroe Hall
3rd floor**

[Department Website](#)

[Department Chair](#)

Dr. Jacqueline Gallagher

Monroe Hall, room 313

jgallagh@umw.edu

540-654-1493

Example 1:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. GEOG 101 - World Regional Geography (3)	Major, GI
2. GEOG 110 - Weather and Climate with Lab (4)	Major, NS
3. FSEM 100L9 - The Geography of Religion (3)	FSEM
4. MATH 110 - Finite Math with Application (3)	Quant Reasoning

Example 2:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. GEOG 101 - World Regional Geography (3)	Major, GI
2. GEOG 250 – Intro to GIS & Cartography with lab (4)	Major, GIS cert.
3. ARAB 101** - Beginning Arabic (3)	Language
4. FSEM 100G – Race and Revolution (3)	FSEM
5. MUPR 341G - Show Choir (1)	Elective

Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. GEOG 102 - Intro to Human Geography (3)	Major, GI or HES
2. FSEM 100N3 – Climate Change and Energy Resources (3)	FSEM
3. GEOG 237 – Cities (3)	Major Elective
4. ARTS 105 - Design Principles (3)	ALPP
5. PHYD 432 - Intercollegiate Tennis - Women (1)	Elective

***This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*