

# Geography

## The Curriculum

Geography is the academic discipline which studies the earth and its people in their many mutual relationships and regional variations. Geography students examine a broad range of topics ranging from the physical nature of the earth's surface and atmosphere to the varied human activities which interrelate with the physical environment and result in a distinct spatial imprint on the land. As a result of its interdisciplinary nature, geography is an outstanding discipline for students who wish to integrate the physical and social sciences.

## The Associate Degree Major

An undergraduate major in geography can prepare the student for a professional career in urban and community planning, resource management, earth and atmospheric sciences, cartography and geographic information systems, education, and regional analysis. With careful planning, students who complete a four-year degree in geography are discovering an expanding variety of employment possibilities.

### If you intend to transfer:

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a baccalaureate degree. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university, you should (1) refer to the transfer section of this catalog, (2) consult the catalog of your prospective transfer institution (see the IVC Transfer Center for assistance), and (3) schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before you begin your program. In addition, it may be helpful to meet with the appropriate department faculty at IVC.

### If you plan to complete an associate degree:

You must complete the following set of courses to fulfill the major requirement and, in addition, meet the general education requirements listed on page 21 for the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree. Refer to page 16 for additional options for fulfilling the major requirement.

## GEOGRAPHY MAJOR

### (A.A. Degree)

		<i>Units</i>
ANTH 2	Cultural Anthropology	3
GEOG 1	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 2	Cultural Geography	3
GEOG 3	World Regional Geography	3
GEOG 38	California Geography	3
GEOL 1	Physical Geology	<u>4</u>
	<b>Total units:</b>	<b>19</b>

Recommended electives: *ANTH 1; HIST 10, 11; GEOL 110; MATH 10; PS 14.*

# Geography Courses

## **GEOG 1** 3 units

### **PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY**

This course engages the student in the systematic study of the dynamic physical environment of the earth as the home of humans. Topics include the sun/earth relationship and energy balance; the character of the atmosphere; weather, climate, and vegetation; the composition of the earth; plate tectonics; landform development and reduction; water; and the modification and pollution of the earth by humans. (CAN GEOG 2) NR  
*Lecture hours: 3*

## **GEOG 2** 3 units

### **CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY**

Students in this course study the kaleidoscope of human activity which takes place on and interrelates with the surface of the earth. The holistic character of geography is revealed in the investigation of such topics as population growth; economic development; human migration; the variety of agriculture; political organization; cultural and ethnic conflict; the origin and diffusion of language; world religions and their distribution; the history, growth, and patterns of settlement; the rise of industrialism; and the result of human activity on the land, water, and atmosphere of the earth. (CAN GEOG 4) NR  
*Lecture hours: 3*

## **GEOG 3** 3 units

### **WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY**

Geography 3 provides a systematic study of the major geographic regions of the world. Specific countries are investigated in terms of their physical environment, resources, population, cultural heritage, economic development, and geographic problems. NR  
*Lecture hours: 3*

## **GEOG 5** 3 units

### **ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES**

This course consists of an analysis of physical landscapes, with special attention given to California and the West. Interactive processes between populations and the environment are studied with consideration of how humans act as agents of environmental change. NR  
*Lecture hours: 3*

## **GEOG 38** 3 units

### **CALIFORNIA GEOGRAPHY**

This course focuses on the physical, biological, and cultural environments of California. The course will emphasize the effects of the climate, topography, resources, and geographic location on the social, political, and economic development of the state. NR  
*Lecture hours: 3*

## **GEOG 289** 0.5-5 units

### **SPECIAL TOPICS IN GEOGRAPHY**

The Special Topics course is a grouping of short seminars designed to provide students with the latest concepts in the field of geography. The course content is thematic in nature, and each seminar topic within the course differs from other offerings in the same course. R-E  
*Lecture hours: 0.5-5 Lab hours: 0.5-5*

## **GEOGRAPHY FIELD STUDIES**

## **GEOG 120** 1 unit

### **GEOGRAPHY FIELD STUDIES: DESERT ENVIRONMENT**

This lecture and laboratory field course introduces students to the desert environment using geographic field investigation techniques. Topics include map reading, map interpretation, and map making; desert climate; identification of common desert plants, animals, and geomorphic features; the human sequence of occupation; and the relationships between humans and the desert environment. R-E-3

*Lecture hours: 0.5 Lab hours: 1*