

GEOGRAPHY

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

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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—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.

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.

Career Options

Examples of careers for the geography major include the following:

Cartography/GIS (Geographic Information Systems)

- Cartographer/Computer Mapper
- Geographic Information Specialist
- Remote-Sensing Analyst
- Surveyor

Cultural and Human Geography

- Community Developer
- Map Librarian
- Peace Corps Volunteer

Economic Geography

- Location Expert
- Market Researcher
- Real Estate Agent/Broker/Appraiser
- Traffic Manager (Shipper)/Route Delivery Manager

Environmental Studies

- Environmental Manager
- Forestry Technician
- Hazardous Waste Planner
- Park Ranger

Geographic Education

- College Professor
- Elementary/Secondary School Teacher
- Overseas Teacher

Physical Geography and Earth Science

- Coastal Zone Manager
- Hydrologist
- Outdoor Guide
- Soil Conservationist/Agricultural Extension Agent
- Weather Forecaster

Regional Geography

- Area Specialist
- International Business Representative
- Travel Agent

Urban and Regional Planning

- Health Services Planner
- Transportation Planner
- Urban and Community Planner

Associate Degree

Associate in Arts Degree in Geography

Students must complete a minimum of 60 units of credit, including the courses in the major ("Major Requirements") and general education requirements (pages 43-49), with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better, and a grade of "A," "B," "C," or "P" in all courses to be counted toward the major. A minimum of 12 units must be completed at Irvine Valley College. See pages 34-35 for further information.

Transfer Preparation

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 bachelor's degree. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before beginning their program. It may be helpful to meet with the department faculty at IVC.

Associate in Arts Degree Major Requirements: Geography

Complete the following courses:

		Units
ANTH 2	Cultural Anthropology	3
GEOG 1	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 1L	Physical Geography Laboratory	1
GEOG 2	Cultural Geography	3
GEOG 3	World Regional Geography	3
GEOG 38	California Geography	3
GEOL 1	Physical Geology	4

TOTAL UNITS: 20

Recommended electives:

ECON 13, MATH 10, WR 1

COURSES

GEOG 1: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY**3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

Physical Geography is the systematic study of the dynamic physical environment of the earth as the human home. Topics include the sun/earth relationship and energy balance, the character of the atmosphere, weather, climate, vegetation, the composition of the earth, plate tectonics, landform development and reduction, water, and the modification and pollution of the earth by humans. NR

GEOG 1L: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY LABORATORY**1 Unit****3 hours lab****Transfers: CSU, UC credit pending****Prerequisite: Prior completion of or concurrent enrollment in Geog 1.**

Laboratory exercises and experiments designed to explore and understand the primary areas of physical geography. Stresses the scientific method in interpreting Earth-sun relations; time; Earth representation through globes, topographic maps and remote sensing; meteorological tools, models and weather prognostication; climate; natural vegetation; geomorphologic models and processes, and landform interpretation. NR

GEOG 2: CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY**3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

This course explores the kaleidoscope of human activity which takes place on, and interrelates with, the surface of the earth. Geography, a holistic science, investigates 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. NR

**GEOG 3: WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY****3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

World Regional Geography provides a systematic study of the major geographic regions of the world. Specific countries within various regions are investigated in terms of their physiographic features, climatic conditions, natural resources, cultural heritage, population characteristics, agricultural practices, transportation systems, economic development, and future prospects. NR

GEOG 38: CALIFORNIA GEOGRAPHY**3 Units****3 hours lecture****Transfers: CSU, UC**

This course provides a broad overview of the state of California in terms of its physical landscape and cultural environment. The state is divided into specific geographic regions; and those regions are analyzed in terms of their physiography, climate, vegetation, water resources, human history, agriculture, mineral resources, manufacturing, transportation, economic development, urbanization, and geographic problems. Students learn to interpret and construct basic maps, the foundation for spatial analysis. Attendance at field trips may be required. NR

GEOG 102: GEOGRAPHY FIELD STUDIES: WESTERN UNITED STATES**1.5 or 2 Units****1 hour lecture, 2 hours lab; or****1 hour lecture, 3 hours lab****Transfers: CSU**

Limitation: Students must be able to hike cross-country on narrow trails and camp (tents, sleeping bags, cooking, limited showers).

This lecture and laboratory field course studies the cultural and physical geography in the western United States. Students observe and analyze the effects of weather and climate on natural vegetation; use topographical maps to interpret land use and terrain; explore economic and political systems of the region; and evaluate the interrelationships between the physical and cultural environment. Thematic emphasis will vary depending on location. A required course fee must be paid at or prior to the orientation session. R-E-3