ABOUT THE MAJOR

The Professional Geology concentration prepares students for a career in Geology immediately upon graduation or for graduate studies in Geology. Students take fundamental geology courses such as Mineralogy, Petrology and Structural Geology as well as more specialized courses such as Hydrogeology and Economic Geology. Depending on student aspirations there are also requirements for Math and Physics coursework. Recent graduates have found work in geotechnical and environmental consulting firms, state and federal agencies and the energy and mining industries, and have been accepted to M.S. and Ph.D. graduate programs nationwide.

ABOUT THIS MAP

This program map is intended ONLY as a guide for students to plan their course of study. It does NOT replace any information in the Undergraduate Catalog, which is the official guide for completing degree requirements. Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UWG, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

WHERE CAN YOU GO WITH THIS DEGREE?

- Archaeologist
- Environmental Field Technician
- Environmental Protection Specialist
- Environmental Scientist
- Forester
- Geologist
- GIS Analyst
- Hydrographic Surveyor
- Quarry Manager
- Sustainability Engineer

ADD A CERTIFICATE

- Atmospheric Science
- Cultural Heritage Management
- Geographic Information Systems
- Human Rights Advocacy
- Museum Studies
- Stream Restoration
- Wildlife Ecology

Visit westga.edu/program-maps for the latest version of this major map.

HONORS COLLEGE

Consider joining if you have an Overall GPA of 3.2 and earned 15 college credit hours!
## YEAR 1

### TERM 1: FALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1: ENGL 1101</td>
<td>English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 1111</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2: XIDS 2002</td>
<td>Recommended First-Year Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F: GEOL 1121 + LAB</td>
<td>Introduction to Geosciences I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: HUMANITES</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### MILESTONES:
- **C1:** Complete ENGL 1101 with C or better
- **MATH 1111:** Complete MATH 1111 with B or better
- **Target:** 15 Credit Hours completed (Example 15)

### CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

- Take the Intro Geology sequence GEOL 1121-4L, and GEOL 1122 in your first and second semesters.
- Enroll in CHEM 1211.
- Get confident with Wolf Watch and your Program Map.

### FIND YOUR PLACE

- Attend a Geoscience Club meeting or event such as River Cleanup, or a professional talk.
- Find other student organizations that match your interests.

### BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

- Explore a new-to-you culture or language through your core coursework.
- Make an effort to be inclusive of others as you meet new faces on campus.

### CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

- Meet our Alumni at the Geosciences Career Night (Spring).
- Go to events in the Carrollton Community.

### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

- Be proactive. Go to your professors’ office hours, even before you need help in the class. These conversations can lead to connections.

### PAVE YOUR PATH

- 15 Fall Credit Hours + 14 Spring Credit Hours = 29 Credit Hours

### YEAR 2

### TERM 2: SPRING

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C2: ENGL 1102</td>
<td>English Composition II</td>
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<td>M: MATH 1113</td>
<td>Pre-calculus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F: GEOL 1122 + LAB</td>
<td>Introduction to Geosciences II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I1: ORAL COMMUNICATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MILESTONES:
- **C2:** Complete ENGL 1102 and MATH 1113 with C or better
- **GEOL 1121-1122:** Complete GEOL 1121-1122 sequence with C or better
- **Target:** 30 Credit Hours completed (29)

### CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

- Complete GEOL 1121-1122 sequence with C or better

### FIND YOUR PLACE

- Explore a new-to-you culture or language through your core coursework.
- Make an effort to be inclusive of others as you meet new faces on campus.

### BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

- Meet our Alumni at the Geosciences Career Night (Spring).
- Go to events in the Carrollton Community.

### CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

- Complete GEOL 3004 Field Geology and Geologic Mapping

### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

- Be proactive. Go to your professors’ office hours, even before you need help in the class. These conversations can lead to connections.

### PAVE YOUR PATH

- 14/15 Fall Credit Hours + 14 Spring Credit Hours = 28/29 Credit Hours

### Additional Information:
- Speak with Advisor and Faculty Mentor about GEOL 4082 before Year 3.
- Consider Summer courses for lower credit loads during Fall and Spring Terms.
### Term 1: Fall

**GEOL 3014**  
Mineralogy and Crystallography  
4 credit hours

**GEOL 4082**  
Geological Problems  
1 credit hour

**T2: Natural Science + Lab**  
4 credit hours

**F: Non-Lab Course**  
3 credit hours

**S: Social Sciences**  
3 credit hours

**Milestones:**  
- Complete Mineralogy (GEOL 3014) with C or better  
- Research (GEOL 4082) okay any semester  
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years

### Find Your Place

- Ask your professors about their research and seek out your own opportunities to do research.
- Start researching career paths.
- Become a TA for Physical Geology or Historical Geology.

### Broader Your Perspectives

- Travel! Explore Travel Abroad opportunities or enroll in Regional Applications of Field Geology (offered summers) to see more of the US.

### Take Care of Yourself

- Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.
- Research graduate school programs and career paths you're considering that pathway.

### Pave Your Path

- Consider that pathway.
- Research graduate school programs if you're interested.
- Connect with the scientific community.
- Attend a professional conference to network and apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Get organized with important dates! Graduation application, job application, grad school stuff, class projects, interviews....put all those dates in your calendar.

### Term 2: Spring

**GEOL 3024**  
Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology  
4 credit hours

**GEOL 4084**  
Hydrogeology  
4 credit hours

**F: Non-Lab Course**  
4 credit hours

**Elective**  
3 credit hours

**Milestones:**  
- Complete IS/Met (GEOL 3024)  
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years  
- Research Graduate Programs and Career Paths  
- Target: 60 Credit Hours Completed (87/73)

### Find Your Place

- Participate in an internship.
- Volunteer with a STEM school visit.

### Broader Your Perspectives

- Take a break from studying en route to enjoy events on campus.

### Take Care of Yourself

- Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.
- Research graduate school programs if you're considering that pathway.

### Pave Your Path

- Take upper-level electives to prepare you for your career/graduate programs.
- Study for the licensure exam (Professional Track students).
- Be a leader in the Program by being a Club officer.
- Serve as a TA again or seek other employment/volunteering opportunities on campus.

### Term 1: Fall

**GEOL 4034**  
Sedimentation and Stratigraphy  
4 credit hours

**GEOL 4024**  
Palaeontology  
4 credit hours

**P: Citizenship**  
Elective  
3 credit hours

**Elective**  
3 credit hours

**Milestones:**  
- Complete Sedstrat (GEOL 4034)  
- Complete Paleo (GEOL 4024)  
- Apply to graduate schools in December  
- Target: 105 Credit Hours Completed (101-105)

### Find Your Place

- Travel! Explore Travel Abroad opportunities or enroll in Regional Applications of Field Geology (offered summers) to see more of the US.

### Broader Your Perspectives

- Take a break from studying en route to enjoy events on campus.

### Take Care of Yourself

- Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.
- Research graduate school programs if you're considering that pathway.

### Pave Your Path

- Request letters of recommendation from professors (at least 2 weeks before you need them).
- Apply to graduate programs in the fall or early winter or apply to jobs in the spring.