ABOUT THE MAJOR

Geology is the study of Earth including its structure, the materials of which it is composed and the processes that shape it. Geology is also concerned with the history of Earth and its life forms, the application of geologic knowledge to the search for natural resources, and understanding how humans interact with our physical environment. It is the study of rocks, minerals and water; of fossils, shorelines and mountains; of earthquakes, volcanoes and landslides. Although geology incorporates elements of chemistry, biology and physics it puts them together in a way that provides a unique framework for understanding planet earth. The Environmental Geology concentration prepares students to work in conservation, management and remediation of natural resources. This concentration includes a wider variety of courses than Professional Geology and requires more Biology and Chemistry. Students have the option of pursuing coursework in Sustainability, Geographic Information Systems and Environmental Policy.

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.
YEAR 1

TERM 1: FALL

A1: ENGL 1101
3 CR
English Composition I

MATH 1111
3 CR
College Algebra

B2: XIDS 2002
2 CR
Recommended First-Year Seminar

F: GEOL 1121 + LAB
4 CR
Introduction to Geosciences I

D1: BIOL 1107 + LAB
4 CR
Principles of Biology I + Lab

MILESTONES:
- COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER
- COMPLETE MATH 1111 WITH B OR BETTER
- COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER
- COMPLETE MATH 1111 WITH B OR BETTER

TARGET: 30 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (31)

TERM 2: SPRING

A1: ENGL 1102
3 CR
English Composition II

A2: MATH 1113
3 CR
Precalculus

F: GEOL 1122 + LAB
4 CR
Introduction to Geosciences II

D1: BIOL 1108 + LAB
4 CR
Principles of Biology II

MILESTONES:
- COMPLETE ENGL 1101 & MATH 1113 WITH C OR BETTER
- COMPLETE GEOL 1121-1122 SEQUENCE
- TARGET: 30 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (31)

16 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS

YEAR 2

TERM 1: FALL

F: CHEM 1211 + LAB
4 CR
(Required Course) Principles of Chemistry I

GEOL 3004
4 CR
Field Geology and Geologic Mapping

MATH 1634
4 CR
(Required Course) Calculus I

GEOL 3603
3 CR
Environmental Geology

MILESTONES:
- COMPLETE CHEM 1211/1211 WITH C OR BETTER
- COMPLETE FIELD GEOLOGY (GEOL 3004) WITH C OR BETTER
- PLAN FOR COURSES OFFERED ONLY ALTERNATE YEARS
- TARGET: 45 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (46)

TERM 2: SPRING

F: CHEM 1212 + LAB
4 CR
(Required Course) Principles of Chemistry II

D2: MATH 1401
3 CR
Elementary Statistics

GEOL 4093
3 CR
Risk Assessment

B1: ORAL COMMUNICATION
3 CR

E: SOCIAL SCIENCES
3 CR

MILESTONES:
- COMPLETE CHEM 1212/1212L WITH C OR BETTER
- PLAN FOR COURSES OFFERED ONLY ALTERNATE YEARS
- TARGET: 45 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (46)

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 16 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 31 CREDIT HOURS

Additional Information:
- Speak with Advisor and Faculty Mentor about GEOL 4082 before Year 3.

CONSIDERATIONS:
- Choose a track: Professional or Environmental.
- Explore courses in the core and follow the Geology Program Map for the geology track you choose.
- Love something outside of geology? Earn a minor or a certificate!

YEAR 2

TERM 1: FALL

TERMINUS:

TERM 2: SPRING

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK

FIND YOUR PLACE

FIND YOUR PLACE

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

PAVE YOUR PATH

PAVE YOUR PATH

• Take the Intro Geology sequence GEOL 1121+L, and GEOL 1122+L, your first and second semesters. Earn UC CHEM 1211. Get confident with Wolf Watch and your Program Map.

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

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

• Meet our Alumni at the Geosciences Career Night in Regional Applications of Field Geology (offered summers) to see more of the US.

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

• Ask your professors about their research and seek out your own opportunities to do research. Start researching career paths.

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

• Research graduate school programs if you’re considering that pathway.

• Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.

• Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.

• Volunteer with a STEM school visit.

• Volunteer with a STEM school visit.

• Take a break from studying once in a while to enjoy events on campus.

• Connect with the scientific community.

• Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.

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

• Take a break from studying once in a while to enjoy events on campus.

• Connect with the scientific community.

• Attend a professional conference to network and connect with the scientific community.
Term 1: Fall

**GEOL 3014**
Mineralogy and Crystallography

**GEOL 4082**
Geological Problems

**CHEM 2455 OR 3310**
(Required Course) Principles of Organic Chemistry or Analytical Chemistry

**C: FINE ARTS/HUMANITES**

**E: SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete Mineralogy (GEOL 3014)
- Research (GEOL 4082) okay any semester
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years
- Target: 75 credit hours completed (77)

Term 2: Spring

**GEOL 4084**
Hydrogeology

**GEOL 4083 OR 4014**
Environmental Geochemistry or Geochemistry

**C: FINE ARTS/HUMANITES**

**E: SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**MILESTONES:**
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years
- Target: 90 credit hours completed (90/91)

**14/15 Fall credit hours + 13/14 Spring credit hours = 27/29 credit hours**

Term 1: Fall

**GEOG 2202**
Environmental Science

**E: SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**F: MAJOR COURSE**

**ELECTIVE**

**MILESTONES:**
- Target: 105 credit hours completed (106/105)

Term 2: Spring

**GEOL 4501**
Geology Seminar

**ELECTIVE**

**ELECTIVE**

**ELECTIVE**

**ELECTIVE**

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete GEOL 4064
- Complete Seminar (GEOL 4501)
- Target: 120 credit hours completed (122/121)

**15 Fall credit hours + 16 Spring credit hours = 31 credit hours**

Geology courses offered only alternate years:
- Fall, odd-numbered years: GEOL 3603 Environmental Geology, GEOL 4003 Geomorphology, GEOL 4044 Engineering Geology
- Spring, even-numbered years: GEOL 4083 Environmental Geochemistry, GEOL 4084 Geochemistry

Electives offered during summer sessions:
- GEOL 2503 Introduction to Oceanography
- GEOL 2553 Geology of National Parks

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**
- Choose a track: Professional or Environmental.
- Explore courses in the core and follow the Geology Program Map for the geology track you choose.
- Love something outside of geology? Earn a minor or a certificate!

**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.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**
- Travel! Explore Travel Abroad opportunities or enroll in Regional Applications of Field Geology (offered summers) to see more of the US.
- Read books or listen to podcasts to expand your thinking about how geosciences affects people and society.

**CONNECT OFF-CAMPUS**
- Participate in an internship.
- Volunteer with a STEM school visit.
- Become a member of a geology professional organization and get involved as soon as you can!

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**
- Get organized with important dates! Graduation application, job application, grad school stuff, class projects, interviews...put all those dates in your phone so that you can stay on top of your busy schedule this final year.

**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.