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.

VISIT WOLFWATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HAVE A QUESTION? CHECK IN WITH YOUR ADVISOR!
YEAR 1

TERM 1: FALL
A1: ENGL 1101  
English Composition I  
3 CREDIT HOURS

MATH 1111  
College Algebra  
3 CREDIT HOURS

B2: XIDS 2002  
Recommended First-Year Seminar  
2 CREDIT HOURS

F: GEOL 1121 + LAB  
Introduction to Geosciences II  
4 CREDIT HOURS

C: FINE ARTS/HUMANITES  
3 CREDIT HOURS

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE ENGL 1101 WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE MATH 1111 WITH B OR BETTER
• TARGET: 15 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (THIS EXAMPLE = 15)

TERM 2: SPRING
A1: ENGL 1102  
English Composition II  
3 CREDIT HOURS

A2: MATH 1112  
Precalculus  
3 CREDIT HOURS

F: GEOL 1122 + LAB  
Introduction to Geosciences II  
4 CREDIT HOURS

B1: ORAL COMMUNICATION  
3 CREDIT HOURS

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE ENGL 1102 AND MATH 1113 WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE GEOL 1121-1122 SEQUENCE WITH C OR BETTER
• TARGET: 30 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (29)

15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 14 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 29 CREDIT HOURS

TERM 1: FALL
F: CHEM 1211 + LAB  
Principles of Chemistry I  
4 CREDIT HOURS

GEOL 3004  
Field Geology and Geologic Mapping  
4 CREDIT HOURS

D2: MATH 1401 OR 1634  
3/4 CREDIT HOURS

E: SOCIAL SCIENCES  
3 CREDIT HOURS

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE CHEM 1211/1211L, WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE FIELD GEOLOGY (GEOL 3004) WITH C OR BETTER
• PLAN FOR COURSES OFFERED ONLY ALTERNATE YEARS
• COMPLETE CHEM 1211/1211L WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE CHEM 1211/1211L WITH C OR BETTER
• COMPLETE STRUCTURAL (GEOL 3034)
• COMPLETE FIELD GEOLOGY (GEOL 3004) WITH C OR BETTER
• TARGET: 40 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (43/44)

TERM 2: SPRING
GEOL 3034  
Structural Geology  
4 CREDIT HOURS

C: FINE ARTS/HUMANITES  
3 CREDIT HOURS

E: SOCIAL SCIENCES  
3 CREDIT HOURS

D1: NATURAL SCIENCE + LAB  
3 CREDIT HOURS

MILESTONES:
• COMPLETE CHEM 1212/1212L (D1 COURSE)
• COMPLETE STRUCTURAL (GEOL 3034)
• PLAN FOR COURSES OFFERED ONLY ALTERNATE YEARS
• TARGET: 40 CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED (43/44)

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.
### YEAR 3

**TERM 1: FALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3014 Mineralogy and Crystallography</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4082 Geologic Problems</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete Mineralogy (GEOL 3014) with C or Better
- Research (GEOL 4082) okay any semester
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years
- Target: 75 credit hours completed (72/73)

**TERM 2: SPRING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 3024 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4084 Hydrogeology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MILESTONES:**
- Complete 1G/MET (GEOL 3024)
- Plan for courses offered only alternate years
- Research graduate programs and career paths
- Target: 90 credit hours completed (87/88)

**15 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 15 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30 CREDIT HOURS**

**TERM 1: FALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4034 Sedimentation and Stratigraphy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4024 Paleontology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**MILESTONES:**
- Complete Sediment (GEOL 4014)
- Complete Paleo (GEOL 4024)
- Apply to graduate schools in December
- Target: 105 credit hours completed (101-105)

**TERM 2: SPRING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4501 Geology Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4604 Economic Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
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**MILESTONES:**
- Complete GEOL 4604
- Complete Seminar (GEOL 4501): Plan ahead year 3, only offered one semester each academic year, may be in fall.
- Need a minimum of 22 elective credits
- Target: 120 credit hours completed (117-121)

14/17 FALL CREDIT HOURS + 16 SPRING CREDIT HOURS = 30/33 CREDIT HOURS

### YEAR 4

**TERM 1: FALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4554 Earthquakes</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOL 4601 Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>3</td>
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**TERM 2: SPRING**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOL 4604 Economic Geology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**MILESTONES:**
- Take upper-level electives to prepare you for your career/graduate programs.
- Study for the licensure exam (Professional Track students).
- Complete the 33 credits required for the B.S. degree (or 36 credits if you choose the Professional or Environmental Track). 30 credits of these must be upper-level (300 level or above).
- Start researching career paths.
- Become a TA for Physical Geology or Historical Geology.

**BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVES**

- Attend a professional conference to connect with the scientific community.
- Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Volunteer with a high school or college mentoring program.
- Visit geology museums and field sites.
- Compete for a research assistantship or graduate assistantship.

**CRUSH YOUR COURSEWORK**

- Participate in an internship.
- Take a gap year to travel or volunteer.
- Enroll in courses that will prepare you for your career/graduate programs.

**RATIONALIZE YOUR SELF**

- Apply for scholarships and REU opportunities.
- Ask your professors about their research and seek out your own opportunities to do research.
- Start researching career paths.
- Take a break from studying once in a while to enjoy events on campus.

**TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

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