

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C
Form Number: C1521**

Fields marked with * are required

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Date: 10-30-2014

Associated Forms exist? Yes Initiator's Title Associate Professor
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Proposed effective term

Semester Fall Year 2015

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program Undergraduate Degree Program
Name of New or Existing Program B.S. in Geography
Select Category Major Degree Type B.S.
Select Action Revision

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog. If there is a change, upload current and proposed requirements.

See current catalog for format within the respective college (upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C existing and proposed B S -ML.docx](#)

Does this change affect other departmental program/branch campuses? If yes, indicate below.

Reason(s) for Request (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

We made changes to our B.S. in order to (1) reduce the number of hours required where possible, (2) provide more flexibility for students when choosing courses and (3) create a stronger distinction between our B.A. and B.S. programs. Please see the attached justification for more information. [REGISTRAR'S NOTE TO VALERIE: SEE COMMENTS.]

[Form C Justification B.S..docx](#)

Upload a document that includes justification for the program, impact on long-range planning, detailed budget analysis and faculty workload implications.(upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C Justification B.S..docx](#)

Are you proposing a new undergraduate degree or new undergraduate certificate? If yes, upload the following documents.

Upload a two-page Executive Summary authorized by Associate Provost. (upload a doc/pdf file)

Upload memo from Associate Provost authorizing go-ahead to full proposal. (upload a doc/pdf file)

Our current B.S. as listed in the course catalog:

College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Undergraduate Admission Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.0 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of the University Writing and Speaking Core.
- Completion of the University Mathematics Core.
- Completion of the University Foreign Language Core.

Completion of Department of Geography and Environmental Studies admission coursework with grades of "C" or better:

- GEOG 101.
- GEOG 102.
- GEOG 281.

Major Study Requirements

The major in Geography requires 42-43 credit hours of lower and upper-division course work.

Bachelor of Science in Geography

Required curriculum:

		Credit Hours
GEOG 101	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 105L	Physical Geography Lab	1
GEOG 102	Human Geography	3
GEOG 195	Humans Role in Changing the Face of the Earth	3
GEOG 281	Introduction to Maps and Geospatial Information	3
GEOG 381L	Introduction to GIS	4
GEOG *481L	Map Design and Geovisualization	4
GEOG 471	Senior Geography Capstone	3
One course	Environmental Studies Group	3

Three courses	Geographic Information Science Group	9
One course	Physical Environment Group	3
Electives	Any 200-, 300-, or 400-level GEOG course	3
		42

Courses included in the above groups are as follows:

Environmental Studies Group: 360, 363, 365, 366, 461, 462, 463, 464, 466, 467.

Geographic Information Science Group: 480L, 482L, 483L, 484L, 485L, 486L, 487L, 488L.

Physical Environment Group: 251, 350, 352.

Our proposed B.S. for listing in the course catalog:

College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Undergraduate Admission Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.0 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of the University Writing and Speaking Core.
- Completion of the University Mathematics Core.
- Completion of the University Foreign Language Core.

Completion of Department of Geography and Environmental Studies admission coursework with grades of "C" or better:

- GEOG 101.
- GEOG 102.

Major Study Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Geography

		Credit Hours
GEOG 101	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 105L	Physical Geography Lab	1
GEOG 102	Human Geography	3
GEOG 281	Introduction to Maps and Geospatial Information	3
GEOG 380	Basic Statistics for Geographers	3
GEOG 381L	Introduction to GIS	4
GEOG *481L	Map Design and Geovisualization	4
GEOG 471	Senior Geography Capstone	3
One course	Any GEOG course numbered in the 360s or 460s	3
Four courses	Any GEOG course at the 200-, 300-, or 400-level	12-16
		39-43

Justification for changes to the B.S. in Geography

General Overview

We propose several changes to our B.S. and provide their justifications below:

First, we reduce the number of credits for the B.S. to 39-43 hours in accordance with the Arts and Sciences “120” goal for number of required credits for graduation.

Second, we remove Humans Role in Changing the Face of the Earth (GEOG 195) as a required course because we deemed it unnecessary to meet the learning outcomes for the B.S.

Third, we add Basic Statistics for Geographers (GEOG 380)ⁱ as a required course because we deemed it necessary to meet the learning outcomes for the B.S.

Fourth, we eliminate the Physical Environment Group requirement because we deemed it unnecessary to meet the learning outcomes for the B.S. We also found it difficult to offer the necessary courses given existing faculty loads.

Fifth, we broaden the Environmental Studies Group requirement to include any courses from our 360s (Human Geography) or 460s (Environmental Management) series to provide students with more choices in choosing courses.

Sixth, we remove the Geographic Information Science Group requirement and now require four courses at the 200, 300 or 400 level Geography level to provide more flexibility to students in choosing courses.

Seventh, we removed GEOG 281 as an admission requirement because we determined it to be unnecessary.

Impact on long-range planning:

None.

Detailed budget analysis:

There will be no impact on budget because it will not change the number of courses we teach.

Faculty workload implications:

There will be no impact on faculty workload because it will not change the number of courses we teach.

ⁱ NOTE we have a proposed change of GEOG 480 to GEOG 380 as a part of this curriculum revision package.