

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE  
FORM C  
Form Number: C1520**

Fields marked with \* are required

**Name of Initiator:** Melinda Harm Benson    **Email:** [mhbenson@unm.edu](mailto:mhbenson@unm.edu)    **Phone Number:** 505 277-1629  
**Date:** 10-30-2014

Associated Forms exist?  Initiator's Title   
Faculty Contact  Administrative Contact   
Department  Admin Email   
Branch Admin Phone

**Proposed effective term**

Semester  Year

**Course Information**

Select Appropriate Program   
Name of New or Existing Program   
Select Category  Degree Type   
Select Action

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 requirements and proposed B A -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)

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.A..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.A. information 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 Arts in Geography

Required curriculum:

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
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 350	Physical Landscapes	3
GEOG 381L	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	4
GEOG *481L	Map Design and Geovisualization	4
Two courses	Environmental Studies Group	6

One course	Human Geography Group	3
One course	Regional Group	3
GEOG 471	Senior Geography Capstone	3
Electives	Any 200- 300- or 400- level GEOG course	3
		<b>42</b>

Courses included in the above groups are as follows:

**Environmental Studies Group:** 366, 461, 462, 463, 464, 466, 467.

**Human Geography Group:** 360, 363, 364, 365.

**Regional Group:** 140, 302, \*445.

Our proposed B.A. information 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 Arts in Geography

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
GEOG 101	Physical Geography	3
GEOG 105L	Physical Geography Lab	1

GEOG 102	Human Geography	3
GEOG 140	World Regional Geography	3
GEOG 195	Humans' Role in Changing the Face of the Earth	3
GEOG 281	Introduction to Maps and Geospatial Information	3
GEOG 471	Senior Geography Capstone	3
One course in GIScience	GEOG 381L Introduction to GIS, or GEOG *481L Map Design and Geovisualization	4
Four courses in human-environment geography	GEOG *445, or any GEOG course numbered in the 360s or 460s	12
One elective	Any 200- 300- or 400- level GEOG course	3-4
<b>Total</b>		<b>38-39</b>

## **Justification for changes to the B.A. in Geography**

### **General Overview**

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

First, we reduce the number of credits for the B.A. to 38-39 hours in accordance with the Arts and Sciences “120” goal for number of required credits for graduation.

Second, we combine the courses in our 360 series (Human Geography) and our 460 series (Environmental Management) so that either can be used to fulfill our new “human-environment geography” course requirements, effectively combining two previous subcategories and providing students a wider variety of courses from which they may choose in meeting the B.A. requirements.

Third, we reduce the number of Geographic Information Science classes required by the B.A. by one 4 credit class in order to create more of a distinction between our B.A. and B.S. This will help us recruit students who are interested in Geography but dislike technical, lab-based GIScience classes.

Fourth, we eliminate the Physical Landscapes (Geog 350) core requirement because we deemed it unnecessary to meet the learning outcomes for the B.A. We also found it difficult to offer every year.

Fifth, we added World Regional Geography (Geog 140) because we deemed it necessary to meet the learning outcomes for the B.A.

Sixth, 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.