

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE  
FORM C  
Form Number: C2155**

Fields marked with \* are required

**Name of Initiator:** John Newman Carr    **Email:** [carrj@unm.edu](mailto:carrj@unm.edu)    **Phone Number:** 505 450-1775    **Date:** 10-31-2017

Associated Forms exist? No    Initiator's Title Asst Professor: Geography  
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**Proposed effective term**

Semester Spring    Year 2018

**Course Information**

Select Appropriate Program Undergraduate Degree Program  
Name of New or Existing Program BA/BS Geography; UG Dept Honors: Geography  
Select Category Major    Degree Type BA and BS  
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)

[Revised GES Undergrad Curriculum3.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)

This curricular change is part of a broader curriculum visioning and planning process that has been ongoing since this past summer. In the last year, Geography and Environmental Studies has added six new faculty across a variety of specialties, and lost a key faculty member to another institution. This means that almost half of the department is new. This transformation has prompted a process of evaluating our departmental strengths and foci. The first major initiative from this project has been the complete reevaluation of our undergraduate program, including BA, BS, and honors requirements. This Form C is at the heart of our restructuring of our program around a three-concentration structure for both the BA and BS, which is designed to clarify and render accessible the existing and emerging strengths in faculty teaching and research. This new curricular structure also seeks to enhance the student learning experience by emphasizing the role of both cornerstone and capstone courses that are designed to frame the GES major's learning experience, enhance the sense of departmental and cohort belonging, and create a clearer path both through the program and onward into professional life. We have also clarified and refined our visions for the BA and BS, with the BA serving as a path towards a broader, more generalized understanding of Geography and Environmental Studies, and the BS serving as an opportunity for more focused inquiry into one of our three concentrations. Finally, we have reevaluated our standards for honors and made them more rigorous and appropriate. To clarify our proposed changes to catalog language, we have attached another copy of the proposed language to this section, with all new and changed provisions highlighted.

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)

[GES Undergrad Justification and Workload 03.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)

