



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

For more information, visit www.uwinnipeg.ca or contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844. In any case where the University of Winnipeg Course Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

Geography

Geography is a discipline that integrates the natural and social sciences; it explains how human and environmental systems function and interact.

The University of Winnipeg Geography program is divided into four areas of study:

- **Physical Geography** examines components of the natural environment including landforms, weather and climate, soils and vegetative systems, and their impacts on humans.
- **Human Geography** focuses on variations in the “human landscape” around the world—its agricultural systems, cities, industries, cultural expressions, and the particular problems faced by different societies.
- **Regional Geography** combines both the physical and human features within specific areas of the world and provides a comprehensive sense of place.
- **Geomatics** courses develop skills in cartography, map reading, interpretation of satellite images, and—using the department’s computer lab—computer mapping, Geographical Information Systems, and statistical data analysis.

Depending on the courses you select, this program can lead to a **Bachelor of Science Degree (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)** or a **Bachelor of Arts Degree (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)**. The department also has a joint **Geography/GIS program with Red River College**.

The Geography Department now also offers a Certificate in Housing and Urban Development. This is a joint program with Winnipeg Technical College. It requires completion of 33 credit hours of prescribed courses. One of these courses will place students in a housing-related organization or a relevant government department.

FIRST YEAR COURSES **Introductory Human Geography I & II** examines the scope, approaches, and basic concepts of geography. The first course studies the role of culture in determining geographical patterns and landscapes, considering language, religion, rural and urban settlement, global and gender inequities, the expression of power in the physical landscape, and the changing global political landscape. The second course focuses on population change and migration, various forms of economic activity, urbanization, levels of development, and links to environmental issues. **Introductory Earth Science** and **Introductory Atmospheric Science** introduce the study of two important aspects of the Earth’s environment. Together, these courses satisfy the University’s Basic Science requirement. Topics include plate tectonics, landforms and the processes that create them, weather systems, violent weather, and the factors that govern the distribution of the climates of the Earth.

SAMPLE CAREERS

The Geography Department offers both science and arts degrees, and because the topics of study within geography are so broad, graduates have found diverse employment opportunities in local, provincial, and federal agencies, and in the private sector.

Those who specialize in human geography have traditionally found employment related to planning (city, rural, or regional), policy development, market assessment, location of business and industry, international development, and tourism.

Those who specialize in physical geography have typically found opportunities in natural resource assessment and management, agricultural development, soil and resource conservation, hydrology, and the atmospheric

and geological sciences.

Those who specialize in geomatics find jobs related to cartography, remote sensing, aerial photography, and in particular, applications of Geographic Information Systems.

Because geographers have a breadth of knowledge crossing many disciplines, and because they usually acquire a wide variety of skills (e.g., critical thinking, writing, statistics, and mapping), they are valued in work environments requiring the integration, assessment, and presentation of information from a variety of sources (e.g., consulting firms and government agencies).

A bachelor's degree in Geography can be useful in teaching positions at elementary or secondary schools. Postgraduate training in geography can lead to teaching opportunities at colleges and universities, or to research positions in government or industry.

MORE SAMPLE COURSES

Physical Geography: Human impact on the Environment, Meteorology, Climatology, Introductory Soil Science, Natural Hazards, and Physical Geology, and Arctic Environments.

Human Geography: Environmental Perception and Human Behaviour, Geography of Globalization, Population Geography, the Urban Environment, Urban Revitalization and Environment & Sustainability.

Regional Geography: Canada's Physical and Human Environments, Geographical Issues in the Developing World, Manitoba's Physical and Human Environments, and Human Geography of the Canadian North.

Geomatics: Computer Mapping, Introduction to GIS, Introduction to Remote Sensing.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Geography is **NOT** about learning the names of capital cities. It **IS** about learning how human and environmental systems work and interact to produce the world within which we live.
- If you're interested in becoming a teacher, Geography can be used as a teachable major or minor in the Education Program.
- Our faculty members have a variety of research programs that employ senior geography students. For example:
 - Ed Cloutis built Mars Environment Chambers to mimic the surface conditions on Mars. Check out Ed's research profile at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/research-2006-e-cloutis>
 - Jino Distasio is part of a major research program which explores homelessness and mental health in Canadian cities. Check out Jino's research profile at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/ius-staff-distasio>
- Through the University of Winnipeg & University of Minnesota dual degree program in Engineering, students who complete a 3-year Bachelor of Science degree in Geography with a minimum GPA of 2.8-3.0 can go on to earn an engineering degree in two years at the College of Science and Engineering. For more information, contact Ben Sharpe at the University of Minnesota by calling **612.624.8504** or emailing sharp003@umn.edu

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

NOTE: *This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. For many of our programs, you may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programs you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.*

Geography (Science)

- GEOG-1201/(3) Introductory Atmospheric Science and
- GEOG-1202/(3) Introductory Earth Science, 6 credit hours Science (introductory with lab components)
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, RHET-1103(3) Academic Writing: Science, or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)
- 6 credit hours Humanities
- 6 credit hours Social Sciences
- 3 credit hours Elective, depending on interest

Geography (Arts)

- GEOG-1102/(3) Introductory Human Geography I: People, Culture, and Environment
- GEOG-1103/(3) Introductory Human Geography II: Population, Place, and Development
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, RHET-1103(3) Academic Writing: Science, or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)
- 6 credit hours Humanities

- 15 credit hours Electives, depending on interest.

Examples are first-year courses such as Anthropology, Conflict Resolution Studies, Criminal Justice, Environmental Studies, International Development Studies, Politics, Psychology, Sociology, or Women's and Gender Studies.

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

- **Science:** In addition to meeting The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements, you must also have either **Pre-Calculus Mathematics 40S** or **Applied Mathematics 40S**. Chemistry 40S, Physics 40S, and /or Pre-Calculus Mathematics 40S may also be required, depending on the other science courses you take.
- **Arts:** You must meet The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements. No specific courses are required.

HOW TO APPLY – Domestic Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca or pick up an Application for Admission from your high school counselor's office or the Admissions Office at The University of Winnipeg. To meet the Scholarship deadline, submit your application and \$80 application fee by **March 1st**.

HOW TO APPLY – International Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-apply and submit all official documents by mail. To meet Scholarship deadline submit application, fee, and documents by **March 1st**. International application fee is \$100, which includes a one-time courier fee.

CONTACT US

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