college of social &
behavioral sciences and social work

start something big

GEOGRAPHY
Bachelor of Arts

Three Big Things:
- Get your feet wet ... in our Wetlands Science Certificate Program
- Stop and smell the flowers... on Geography Department fieldtrips
- The world is at your fingertips... in our Geographic Information Systems Certificate Program

Geography is the core environmental discipline: it is the study of the physical and human environments of our planet and the ways that they interact. Knowledge of geography is basic to any understanding of modern issues, whether they involve resource management, urban problems and planning, environmental issues, commercial and political interaction between nations and regions, or many other vital topics. Geography combines social and natural science methods and knowledge to help us understand the complex problems facing businesses, government agencies, and community organizations. Geographers are uniquely qualified to investigate issues involving competing land use, complex land management problems, and integrated natural resource development. While geographers gain exposure to all aspects of the discipline, typically students will concentrate on either human geography or physical geography for their degree.

Career Opportunities
Many geographers are employed in the natural resource sectors of federal and state governments, in local planning offices, in K-12 education, and in tourism, parks and recreation agencies, and the military. In the private sector, geographers use their skills in manufacture and design, marketing, transportation, and international trade. Human geographers may find careers that involve planning, public administration, social services, consulting, teaching, and other fields that require an understanding of cultural values and human-environment relations. Physical geographers work in areas such as terrain analysis and stabilization, environmental impact assessment, wildlife habitat protection, forest hydrology and atmospheric and soil sciences. Geographers are also employed in IT fields as GIS (Geographic Information Systems) specialists.

Concentration Areas
The Geography Program offers four areas of concentration including:

1. Human Geography and 2. Physical Geography. The geography major requires a total of 60 credits spanning both human and physical geography, including 30 required core geography credits, 10 required CSBS foundational credits, and 20 elective geography credits. Students choose electives from four concentration areas. Though not required with the Geography BA, a minor or certificate is recommended.

*Wetlands Certificate
*Geographic Information Systems Certificate (GIS)

Curriculum
There are two main subfields within academic geography:

1. Human Geography and 2. Physical Geography. The geography major requires a total of 60 credits spanning both human and physical geography, including 30 required core geography credits, 10 required CSBS foundational credits, and 20 elective geography credits. Students choose electives from four concentration areas. Though not required with the Geography BA, a minor or certificate is recommended.

*Wetlands Certificate
*Geographic Information Systems Certificate (GIS)
Physical Geography
This concentration focuses on various aspects of the natural environment. Electives in this area include but are not limited to climatology, geomorphology, oceanography, vegetation ecology, soil science, hydrology and wetlands science (see also the Wetlands Certificate).

Regional Geography
This concentration area examines specific places around the world in more detail. Specially regions in this concentration include but are not limited to the Pacific Northwest, North America, Latin America, Pacific Rim, and Canada.

Geographic Techniques
This concentration area exposes students to many techniques, methods, and equipment used by geographers. Electives in this area include but are not limited to cartography and map design, air photo interpretation, remote sensing, and geographic information systems (see also the GIS Certificate).

Certificates
The Geography program has developed two certificate programs that are open to any major. The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Certificate (24-30 credits) allows students to specialize in computer mapping and spatial analysis techniques using ESRI software. The Certificate in Wetlands Science and Management (31-33 credits) provides students with advanced training in both the physical science of wetlands and their social context.

Geography Minor
The Geography minor consists of 14 to 15 credits. Students earn a geography minor by taking two required courses, GEOG 100 Fundamentals of the Physical Environment (5 credits) and GEOG 101, Fundamentals of Human Geography (5 credits), and an additional 4 to 5 geography credits approved by the geography advisor.

For Further Information
Geography and Anthropology, Geography Program
103 Isle Hall
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004
Phone: 509-359-2433

Internet Access
The department website provides more information. Please go to: http://www.ewu.edu/geography

The University
Eastern Washington University is a student-centered, regionally based, comprehensive university. Its campus is located in Cheney within the Spokane metropolitan area, with additional learning centers in the region and elsewhere in Washington State. With more than 100 fields of study, nine master’s degrees, four graduate certificates, 76 graduate programs and a physical therapy doctoral program, its mission is to prepare broadly educated, technologically proficient, and highly productive citizens to attain meaningful careers, to enjoy enriched lives, and to make contributions to a culturally diverse society.

Our mission to be a student-centered, regionally engaged university will be fulfilled best through a distinguished EWU academic experience that is integrated and interdependent. This vision informs and inspires our future.

Note:
Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Geography please check the catalog online at:
http://www.ewu.edu/geography