This emphasis focuses on earth systems, its processes and the impacts of these processes on the environment. Recent and future changes in the earth’s climate represent one of the greatest challenges for modern society, and courses in this emphasis cover the climate system, climate change and impacts of climate change on the environment and society.

Students can choose electives that allow them to specialize in one or more of the following areas: climate, biogeography, geomorphology, and hydrology/cryogeography.
REQUIRED CLASSES

Geography core requirements

GEOG 1000 Earth Environments and Global Change (SF)
GEOG 1005 Earth Environments Lab
GEOG 1400 Human Geography (BF)
GEOG 3020 Geographical Analysis (QB,QI)
GEOG 3100 Introduction to GIS and Cartography (QI)

One of the following: (Upper division Human Geography choice list)
GEOG 3/5090 Medical Geography
GEOG 3350 Resource Conservation & Environ. Management (BF)
GEOG 3420 Political Geography
GEOG 3/5440 Global Economic Geography (IR)
GEOG 3620 North America: Geography, Diversity, and Change (DV)

Emphasis Required Core: (required core courses for emphasis)
GEOG 3200 Geomorphology: Mountains, Rivers, Deserts
GEOG 5205 Climate Change Foundations
GEOG 5210 Global Climate Change (SF)
GEOG 5270 Biogeography: Global Patterns of Life (CW)
GEOG 3050 Problem Solving in Physical Geography

EMPHASIS ELECTIVES

Select three elective courses from list

CLIMATE
GEOG 5215 Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation, & Mitigation
GEOG 5275 Vegetation and Climate Change
GEOG 5368 Energy Choices for the 21st Century
GEOG 5410 Paleoclimatology
GEOG 5460 Popular Literature on Climate Change
COMM 5365 Communicating Climate Change

BIOGEOGRAPHY
GEOG 5230 Pyrogeography (AS)
GEOG 5280 Quaternary Environments
GEOG 5420 Pollen Analysis
GEOG 5712 Paleoenvironmental Field Methods
BIOL 2355 Field Botany
ENVST 5180 Field Ecology in PRT

GEOMORPHOLOGY
GEOG 5201 Advanced Topics in Geomorphology: Arid Lands
GEOG 5202 Geoarchaeological Theory and Methods
GEOG 3000 Geo-Excursions in Utah

HYDROLOGY/CRYOGEOGRAPHY
GEOG 5290 Water in Utah (AS)
GEOG 5260 Snow Dynamics & Avalanche Studies
GEOG 3300 The Water Planet (SF)

*SOG 5940 Internship in Geography or GEOG 5950 independent study may be counted only once toward the major elective requirement

CAREER OUTLOOK

Bureau of Land Management
US Forest Service
Division of Wildlife Resources
Fish & Game
Department of Agriculture & Food & Forestry
Land focused conservation organizations
Nature Conservancy
Environmental Law

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generous donations given by industry & alumni, The Geography department offers several scholarships to incoming and continuing students.

To apply, please visit:
https://geog.utah.edu/undergraduate/scholarships.html

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the Geography department or to contact an Academic Advisor, please visit: geog.utah.edu

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Department of Geography

STEM Education