# Geography and Planning - BS or BA

This is a general curriculum guide and is not applicable to every student. It is important to meet with your advisor.

## Geography and Planning major (36 credits)

### Geography Core (12 credits)

- **GPY 100 Physical Geography (3)**
- **GPY 300 Research Methods in Geography and Planning (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: STA 215
- **GPY 200 Cultural Geography (3)**
- **GPY 495 Senior Thesis SWS (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: Senior standing

### Major Electives (24 credits)

The remainder of the 24 credit hours is comprised of electives that students select in close consultation with their academic advisor. Students must complete a minimum of 15 credit hours through the Department of Geography and Planning (with the GPY acronym). The remaining 9 hours may be selected from other departments listed on the reverse side.

Students generally focus their electives beyond the core courses in certain academic areas (for example, Geographic Information Systems, Remote Sensing and Image Processing, Cartography; City and Regional Planning; Environmental Geography/Environmental Studies, or Regional/Global Studies). However, it is suggested that a certain breadth across these areas is advantageous in order to provide flexibility and marketability for employment and/or acceptance by a graduate school. No more than six hours of 399 and 499 combined may count toward the major.

- **Major Elective (3)**
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See reverse for elective options

## Degree: choose one (B.A. or B.S.)

### Bachelor of Arts

- Third semester proficiency (201 level) is required for the B.A. degree. This may be fulfilled through language placement
  
  ([http://www.gvsu.edu/ml/education/lang/](http://www.gvsu.edu/ml/education/lang/)) or by completing the courses listed below

  - **Language 101 (4)**
  - **Language 102/150 (4) (150 is a hybrid of 101 & 102 and is only recommended for students with previous language background)**
  - **Language 201 (4)**

- **GPY 300 Research Methods in Geography and Planning (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: Senior standing

### Bachelor of Science

- **STA 215 Introductory Applied Statistics (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: MTH 110 or equivalent
- **STA 216 Intermediate Applied Statistics (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: STA 215 or STA 312
- **GPY 300 Research Methods in Geography and Planning (3)**
  
  Prerequisite: STA 215

## Sample Plan

- **GPY Focus Area (3)**
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**Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute**

*Elective refers to any course to help you earn the required 120 credits for graduation (you are encouraged to complete an average of 15 credits per semester)*

*The block tuition rate is for 12-15 credits. You will pay additional tuition for any credits over 15

*GPY 200, GPY 307, and GPY 407 are recommended as GPY electives

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It is imperative to meet with your faculty advisor and an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center regularly. The CLAS Academic Advising Center is located in C-1-140 MAK, 616-331-8585. Online at: [http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising](http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising)
Guide for Declaring the Geography and Planning Major:

1. Log into myBanner from the GVSU homepage
2. Once logged in select “Student”, “Student Records”, and then, “Change Major”
3. Click on the “Change Major 1/Program” box
4. Click on the down arrow in the box next to “New Major 1/Program,” from here scroll down and choose “Geography and Planning-BA” or “Geography and Planning-BS” depending on your degree cognate
5. Click “Submit” and then “Change to New Program”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Categories fulfilled by the Geography and Planning major:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences: GPY 220 or GPY 235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Sciences: STA 215 (prereq to GPY 300)</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Perspectives: Option of selecting GPY 235</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical Perspectives: Option of selecting ANT 215</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme/Issue: Many options</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Diversity: GPY 353</td>
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Geography and Planning Elective Courses (all courses are 3 credits unless otherwise noted)

City and Regional Planning

- GPY 309 Introduction to City & Regional Planning**
- GPY 310 Land Use Planning**
- GPY 312 City and Regional Environmental Planning**
- GPY 314 Land Use and Planning Law
- GPY 316 Introduction to Transportation Planning
- GPY 324 Urbanization**
  ** = Sustainable City and regional Planning Certificate
  (Check Catalog for more details)

- GPY 335 Geographic Patterns-Global Development
- GPY 336 GIS for Economic & Business Geography
- GPY 365 GIS for Economic & Business Geography
- GPY 385 Economic in the United States
- GPY/ENS 410 Landscape Analysis
  Prerequisite: GPY 100 or GEO 111 or BIO 105 or GPY 309

Environmental Geography

- GPY 361 Historical Geography of the Amazon
- GPY 362 A Geography of World Agriculture & Farms
- GPY 363 World Forests and Their Use
- GPY 362 A Geography of World Agriculture and Farmers

- GPY 370 Introduction to Remote Sensing**
  ** = Sustainable City and regional Planning Certificate

PA 307 Local Policies and Administration
ECO 345 Environmental & Resource Economics
  Prerequisite: ECO 211 or ECO 200
ECO 435 Urban Economics
  Prerequisite: ECO 211 or ECO 200
ECO 436 Real Estate Economics
  Prerequisite: ECO 211 or ECO 200

Geographic Techniques

- GPY 200 Computer Cartography
  Prerequisite: MTH 110 **
- GPY 307 Introduction to Computer Mapping/Geographic Information Systems **
  Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission of instructor
- GPY/MKT 365 GIS for Economic & Business Geography
- GPY 370 Introduction to Remote Sensing **
  ** = Sustainable City and regional Planning Certificate
- GPY 385 Economic Geography of the United States GPY 407 Advanced GIS (4) **
  Prerequisite: GPY 307
- GPY 425 Field Research Project
  Prerequisite: permission of instructor
- GPY 470 Digital Image Processing
  Prerequisite: GPY 307 or NRM 350
- CIS 160 Programming with Visual Basic
  Prerequisite: MTH 110
- CIS 162 Computer Science 1 (4)
  Prerequisite: MTH 110
- CIS 230 Hardware and Software
  Prerequisite: CIS 150
- CIS 260 Application Development in Visual Basic
  (4) Prerequisite: CIS 162
- NRM 250 Resource Management and Maps (4)
- NRM 395 GIS Applications in Resource Management
  Prerequisite: GPY 307 or NRM 250
** = GIS Certificate (check Catalog for more details)

Regional/Global Studies

- GPY 235 World Regional Geography
- GPY 335 Geographic Patterns-Global Development
- GPY 345 Geography of Michigan/Great Lakes Region
- GPY 350 Geography of Russia and its Neighbors
- GPY 351 Geography of Africa
- GPY 352 Geography of Latin America
- GPY 353 Geography of the United States & Canada
- GPY 354 Geography of Asia
- GPY 355 Geography of Southwest Asia (The Middle East)
- GPY 365 Geography of Europe
- GPY 361 Historical Geography of the Amazon
- GPY 362 A Geography of World Agriculture and Farmers
- ANT 215 Origins of Civilization

Other

- GPY 380 Special Topics in Geography
- GPY 399 Independent Readings (1-3)
  Prerequisite: Permission of program coordinator
- GPY 490 Internship (1-9)
  Prerequisite: Permission of program coordinator
- GPY 499 Independent Research (1-3)
  Prerequisite: Permission of program coordinator