# Geography and Planning BS or BA

## 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 220 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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### Sample Plan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Year Two</th>
<th>Year Three</th>
<th>Year Four</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTH 110 (4)</td>
<td>STA 215 (3)</td>
<td>GPY Focus Area (3)</td>
<td>GPY 495 (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS 150 (3)</td>
<td>GPY 200 (3)</td>
<td>GPY Focus Area (3)</td>
<td>GPY Focus Area (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPY 220 (3)</td>
<td>WRT 150 (3)</td>
<td>GPY Focus Area (3)</td>
<td>GPY Focus Area (3)</td>
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<td>GPY 100 (3)</td>
<td>GEN ED (3)</td>
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<td>GEN ED (3)</td>
<td>GEN ED (3)</td>
<td>ISSUE (3)</td>
<td>Elective (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective (3)</td>
<td>STA 216 or option (3)</td>
<td>Elective (3)</td>
<td>Elective (3)</td>
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* CIS 150 is a foundation course for many of the GPY electives
* Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute – one should be outside the major
* 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

### Degree: choose one option

#### 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(language-placement-the-opi-108.htm](http://www.gvsu.edu/ml/language-placement-the-opi-108.htm)) 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)

#### Bachelor of Science

- **STA 215 Introductory Applied Statistics** (3)
  - Prerequisite: MTH 110 or equivalent
- One of the following:
  - **STA 216 Intermediate Applied Statistics** (3)
    - Prerequisite: STA 215 or STA 312
  - **GY 407 Advanced GIS** (4)
    - Prerequisite: GY 307
  - **GPY/EN 410 Landscape Analysis** (3)
    - Prerequisites: GY 100 or GEO 111 or BIO 105 or GY 309
  - **GY 412 Global Environmental Change** (3)
    - Prerequisites: GY 100 or BIO 105
  - **GY 470 Digital Image Processing** (3)
    - Prerequisites: MTH 110, GY 370, NRM 350 or permission
  - **PA 495 Community Analysis** (3)
    - Prerequisite: Senior Standing
- **GY 300 Research Methods in Geography and Planning** (3)
  - Prerequisite: STA 215

It is imperative to meet with your faculty advisor and an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center regularly.

Your contact in the CLAS Academic Advising Center is Betty Schaner (schanerb@gvsu.edu)

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>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematical Sciences: STA 215 (prereq to GPY 300)</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Perspectives: Several options</td>
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<td>Historical Perspectives: Option of selecting ANT 215</td>
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<td>Issue: Many options</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Diversity: GPY 353</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography and Planning Elective Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>(all courses are 3 credits unless otherwise noted)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Many of the Geography courses are cross-listed with other departments – students should search under each discipline to find available sections.</td>
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**Urban and Regional Planning**

- GPY/PA 309 Intro to Urban & Regional Planning
- GPY/PA 310 Land Use Planning
- GPY/ENS/PA 312 Urban and Regional Environmental Planning
- GPY/PA 314 Land Use and Planning Law
- GPY/PA 316 Intro to Transportation Planning

**Environmental Geography**

- GPY 361 Historical Geography of the Amazon
- GPY 362 Farmers, Crops & our Challenging Agricultural World
- GPY 363 World Forests and Their Use

**Geographic Techniques**

- GPY 200 Computer Cartography
  Prerequisite: MTH 110
- GPY 307 Intro to Computer Mapping & Geographic Info Systems
  Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission of instructor
- GPY/MKT/PA 365 GIS for Economic & Business Decision Making
- GPY 370 Introduction to Remote Sensing
- GPY/PA 385 Economic Geography of the US
- 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
  Prerequisite: CIS 162
- NRM 250 Resource Measurement and Maps
- NRM 395 GIS Applications in Resource Management
  Prerequisite: GPY 307 or NRM 250

**Regional/Global Studies**

- GPY 235 World Regional Geography
- GPY 335 Globalization and 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 & Globalization of Asia
- GPY 355 Geography of Southwest Asia (The Middle East)
- GPY 356 Geography of Europe
- GPY 361 Historical Geography of the Amazon
- GPY 362 Farmers, Crops & our Challenging Agricultural World
- 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

**Optional Certificates**

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<tr>
<th>Geographic Information Systems Technology (GIS)</th>
<th>Sustainable Urban and Regional Planning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Required Courses:</td>
<td>Complete four of the five courses listed below:</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPY 200 Computer Typography</td>
<td>GPY 309 Introduction to Urban and Regional Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPY 307 Intro to Computer Mapping &amp; Geographic Info Systems</td>
<td>GPY 310/PA Land Use Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPY 407 Advanced GIS (4)</td>
<td>GPY/ENS/PA 312 Urban and Regional Environmental Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose One Additional Elective:</td>
<td>GPY/PA 324 Urbanization</td>
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<td>GPY/MKT/PA 365 GIS for Economic &amp; Business Decision Making</td>
<td>GPY/ENS/PA 410 Landscape Analysis</td>
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<td>GPY 370 Into to Remote Sensing</td>
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<td>NRM 395 GIS Applications in Resource Management</td>
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<td>GEO 425 GIS Applications in Geology</td>
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<td>GPY 470 Digital Image Processing</td>
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<td>PA 644 GIS in the Public Service</td>
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