Geoscience, BA

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

These checkpoints show the range of required coursework. The major requires field trip experiences, many of which take place during breaks in or between semesters or during the summer session. These checkpoints do not include the field trip requirements.

Before the third semester begins: competence in math through trigonometry and the first required chemistry course.

Before the fifth semester begins: three to five courses in the major, including the remainder of the chemistry requirement and continuation of the mathematics requirement.

Before the seventh semester begins: 7–11 courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

Before the eighth semester begins: 10–14 courses in the major.

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Geoscience, BA

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
Research: students are strongly encouraged to be active participants in research within the department.		
While only one field course is required, students are encouraged to participate in additional field experiences, whenever possible.		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability [a]		
	Hours	**0**
First Year		
Fall		
EES:1050 or EES:1030	Introduction to Geology [b] or Introduction to Earth Science	4
CHEM:1070	General Chemistry I [b]	3
Major: math/statistics/computer science course [b, c]		3 - 4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	2
	Hours	**15-17**
Spring		
EES:2200	Historical Geology	4
CHEM:1080	General Chemistry II	3
Major: math/statistics/computer science course [c]		3 - 4
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion [d]		3
	Hours	**16-18**
Second Year		
Fall		
EES:3210 or EES:1040	Principles of Paleontology [e] or Evolution and the History of Life	4
EES:2410	Mineralogy	4
Major: math/statistics/computer science course [c]		4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course [f]		4 - 5
	Hours	**16-17**
Spring		
EES:2001	Second-Year Field Trip for Earth and Environmental Sciences [g]	1
Major: geoscience "choose three" course [h]		3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives [d]		3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture [d]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course [f]		4 - 5
	Hours	**14-16**
Summer		
EES:2831	Geologic Field Methods [i]	3
	Hours	**3**
Third Year		
Fall		
EES:3001	Third-Year Field Trip for Earth and Environmental Sciences [g]	1
Major: geoscience "choose three" course [h]		3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues [d]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course [f]		4 - 5
Elective course [j]		3
	Hours	**14-16**
Spring		
Major: geoscience "choose three" course [h]		3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences [d]		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course [f]		4 - 5
Elective course [j]		3
Elective course [j]		2
	Hours	**15-17**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
EES:4001	Fourth-Year Field Trip for Earth and Environmental Sciences [g]	2
Major: geoscience elective course prefix EES numbered 3000 or above		3 - 4
Major: geoscience elective course prefix EES numbered 3000 or above		3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts [d]		3

Elective course [j]	3
Hours	**14-16**
Spring	
Major: geoscience elective course prefix EES numbered 3000 or above	3 - 4
Major: geoscience elective course prefix EES numbered 3000 or above	3 - 4
Elective course [j]	3
Elective course [j]	3
Elective course [j]	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) [k]	
Hours	**15-17**
Total Hours	**122-137**

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Culture.

b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.

c Students must complete 10 s.h. in college-level mathematics courses (may include computer science and statistics). Students should choose at least one course that will also complete the Quantitative or Formal Reasoning GE CLAS Core requirement.

d GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

e If EES:1040 is chosen, it must be taken with the lab for 4 s.h.

f Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.

g Recommended but not required to complete Geoscience BA degree requirements.

h Choose from EES:3300, EES:3360, EES:3380, EES:3500, EES:3840, or EES:4630.

i To complete the major, students must have field experience. They may take at least 4 s.h. of EES:1179/EES:1180 and/or EES:3160 to satisfy this requirement. Either EES:1179/EES:1180 or EES:3160 may be repeated and/or combined to fulfill the necessary semester hours. Or they may take one semester of EES:2831 or the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory session for 3 s.h.

j Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

k Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Graduation Services.