

SUSTAINABILITY, SOCIETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY, B.A.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2026-27 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Sustainability, Society, and Environmental Geography, B.A. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
EMSC 100S (GWS) ^{*††}	3 General Education Foundation selection (GQ): STAT 100 or STAT 200 or STAT 240 or STAT 250 ^{*††}	3-4
General Education Foundation selection (GQ): MATH 33 or MATH 21 or higher ^{*††}	3-4 World Language Level 2	4
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 GEOG 210 or 230 [*]	3
World Language Level 1	4 General Education Foundation selection (GWS): ENGL 15 or ESL 15 or ENGL 30H or ENGL/CAS 137H [‡]	3
GEOG 210 or 230 [*]	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
16-17		16-17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
World Language Level 3	4 GEOG 344 [*]	3
GEOG 340 [*]	3 GEOG 390 [*]	1

General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3
BA Fields course		3
16		16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
300-level GEOG selection [*]	3 400-level GEOG selection [*]	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 400-level GEOG selection [*]	3
Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3
Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	2-3
15		14-15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
400-level GEOG selection [*]	3 GEOG 440 [*]	3
Engaged Scholarship selection (EMSC 299, EMSC 470W, GEOG 199, GEOG 299, GEOG 399, GEOG 493, GEOG 494, GEOG 494H, GEOG 495, GEOG 495B, GEOG 495G, or GEOG 499) [*]	3 400-level GEOG selection [*]	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
BA Fields course	3 BA Fields course	3
BA Other Cultures course or Elective	0-3 Elective	0-2
12-15		12-14

Total Credits 117-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Students who begin their studies at non-UP locations and/or join the college after their first year should substitute CAS 100 (GWS) or ENGL 202A (GWS) or ENGL 202B (GWS) or ENGL 202C (GWS) or ENGL 202D (GWS) or ENGL 202H (GWS) for EMSC 100S (GWS). EMSC 100S Earth and Mineral Sciences First year Seminar (3) is a required course only for students who begin their studies at UP in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in World Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as World Cultures courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-world-cultures/>).

Advising Notes:

- Students who place out of world language courses will have additional electives. For example, a student who has had 4 years of high school French and begins world language study at Penn State in Intermediate French (FR 3) will have 8 additional elective credits.
- To enter the major, students need a minimum 2.00 grade point average and third semester standing.
- Courses required for the major may be offered fall semester only, spring semester only, or both fall and spring semesters. Consult with your adviser and department to discuss your academic progress and course sequencing.

Sustainability, Society, and Environmental Geography, B.A. at Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
General Education	3 General Education	3
Foundation selection (GWS): ENGL 15 or ESL 15 or ENGL 30H or ENGL/CAS 137H [‡]	Foundation selection (GWS): CAS 100, 100A, 100B, or 100C ^{*††}	
General Education	3-4 General Education	3-4
Foundation selection (GQ): MATH 33 or MATH 21 or higher ^{*††}	Foundation selection (GQ): STAT 100 or STAT 200 or STAT 240 or STAT 250 ^{*††}	
World Language Level 1	4 World Language Level 2	4
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
16-17		16-17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
World Language Level 3	4 General Education	3
	Foundation selection (GWS): ENGL 202A, ENGL 202B, ENGL 202C, ENGL 202D [‡]	
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 BA Fields course	3
General Education Knowledge Domain selection	3 BA Fields course	3
16		15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
GEOG 210 [*]	3 GEOG 340 [*]	3
GEOG 230 [*]	3 GEOG 344 [*]	3
GEOG 390 [*]	1 300-level GEOG selection [*]	3
BA Fields course	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3
Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3

Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3	
16		15
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
400-level GEOG selection [*]	3 GEOG 440 [*]	3
400-level GEOG selection [*]	3 400-level GEOG selection [*]	3
GEOG 494/495/engaged scholarship course [*]	3 400-level GEOG selection [*]	3
Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3 Minor/certificate/supporting course [*]	3
BA Other Cultures course or Elective	0-3 Elective	0-2
12-15		12-14

Total Credits 118-125

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

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Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in World Cultures.

See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as World Cultures courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-world-cultures/>).

Advising Notes:

- Commonwealth campus students are **strongly** advised to complete all GWS, GQ, and GHW credits before transitioning to UP, as these courses may be challenging to schedule at UP.
- Students who place out of world language courses will have additional electives. For example, a student who has had 4 years of high school French and begins world language study at Penn State in Intermediate French (FR 3) will have 8 additional elective credits.
- To enter the major, students need a minimum 2.00 grade point average and third semester standing.
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