

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN -DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY-

Guidebook for Undergraduates



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WELCOME

Welcome to the Geology Department! Geology is an exciting and challenging profession, and many aspects of geology offer excellent career opportunities for the dedicated, well-trained professional. Different areas of specialty have different employment opportunities; check with an advisor to match your academic program with career goals.

This booklet is intended to assist you in developing your program and in avoiding pitfalls during your academic career. Advisors (see front cover) and other faculty are available to discuss both the geological profession and your personal program, concerns, and goals with you.

ADMISSION TO GEOLOGY PROGRAMS

You may enter a geology program at any time in your undergraduate career, although late entry can delay graduation. Changes in your major can only be made during the week before classes, the first week of classes, or the 2 weeks before the beginning of registration for the next semester.

If you enter Geology from the General Curriculum, you must obtain your file from the General Curriculum Office (912 South Fifth Street) during the advising period and bring it to 208 NHB. If you enter Geology from another department, you must go to 144 Computing Applications Building to formalize the change. You will be given a file release form, which is exchanged for your file at your prior department office. Then, take your file to the Undergraduate Secretary, Marilyn Whalen, at the Geology office, 208 NHB.

Marilyn will assign you to an Advisor, enter your name on the departmental roster, and e-mail you information regarding Advising week and appointments with your Advisor.

CAMPUS INFORMATION

Every LAS student should have a copy of the current LAS Student Handbook, obtainable on-line at: <http://www.las.uiuc.edu/students/>. This booklet gives detailed information about all undergraduate academic matters applying to LAS students. It should be used to supplement this departmental undergraduate guide.

You should also be familiar with the booklet Code on Campus Affairs and Regulations Applying to All Students (sent to all students by the University and available on-line at: <http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/index.html>). This and the LAS Student Handbook cover most procedural matters of concern to students.

Departmental advisors (see cover sheet) are also available to answer questions and aid in planning.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT

1. You must select your program (i.e., specialized curriculum in geology and geophysics with concentrations in geology, geophysics or environmental geology; sciences and letters curriculum with concentrations in geology, earth and environmental science or earth science teaching) and inform the Undergraduate Secretary of your choice.
2. You are ultimately responsible for ensuring all your academic requirements for graduation are fulfilled, but departmental and college advisors will help.* You should meet with your advisor and discuss your program each semester during pre-enrollment. You should review your progress, noting requirements still to be completed before graduation. The Internet address for the most current program requirements in geology is:

<http://courses.illinois.edu/cis/2008/fall/programs/undergrad/las/geology.html>

A degree requirement check can be made at anytime in 144 Computing Applications Building.

3. You are responsible for maintaining your overall grade point average and the grade point average in geology and the supporting sciences. The GPA in the sciences can be checked with Marilyn. A degree will not be conferred if either average is below 2.0 and students in the earth science teaching option must have a GPA of at least 2.5.
4. If you are in the geology major in the Science & Letters Curriculum, you must file a Plan of Study with the LAS office before the beginning of your sixth semester. The plan of study is prepared with the help of an advisor, who must also sign the Plan of Study.
5. You must complete all courses listed for your program (or accepted equivalents taken elsewhere) or have a petition signed by the Chair of the Undergraduate Committee approving any substitution. Students not completing all courses will not be included on graduation rosters.

*Note also that the official university degree requirements for graduation are those in the current "Programs of Study"; this is the formal "contract" between the University and you as a student. We have tried to make this packet consistent with "Programs of Study" but be sure to consult the catalog to be sure you meet all graduation requirements.

PROGRAMS IN GEOLOGY

SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM IN GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Geology

The curriculum in geology and geophysics is designed for students who plan to pursue graduate study in geology or geophysics or who wish to work professionally in the environmental field upon obtaining the bachelor's degree. It consists of geology, geophysics, and environmental geology concentrations, and offers more training in geology and related science than is required of students who make geology their major in the sciences and letters curriculum.

Graduation requires a grade-point average of at least 2.0 (A = 4) overall and a 2.0 average in all required science and technical courses. A total of 126 semester hours of credit is required for graduation.

Geology Concentration Requirements

	Hours⁴
A. <i>Geology</i> : GEOL 107 ² , 208, 143, 411, 417 ³ , 432, 436, 440, 450 (or 452), 460, and 6 additional hours of 300- or 400-level geology.....	45 ¹
B. <i>Physics</i> : PHYCS 211 and 212 (or 101 and 102).....	8-10
C. <i>Mathematics</i> : MATH 220 or Math 221, 231, 225 or 415, 241.....	13-15
D. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 102/103 and 104/105 (or 202, 203, 204, 205).....	8-9
<i>Additional technical requirement</i> : At least 3 hours from IB 103 or 104, PHYCS 213 or 214, C.S. 101 or 125, MATH 285 or 441, STAT 400 or CPSC 440.....	3
E. Total hours.....	12

Geophysics Concentration Requirements

	Hours
A. <i>Geology</i> : GEOL 107 ² , 208, 452, and 10 additional hours of 300 or 400-level geology.....	22
B. <i>Physics</i> : PHYCS 211, 212, 213, 214, and either PHYCS 325 or TAM 210/212.....	15-17
C. <i>Mathematics</i> : MATH 220 or 221, 231, 241, 225 or 415, 285.....	20-21
D. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 102/103 and 104/105 (or 202, 203, 204, 205).....	8-9
E. <i>Additional technical requirements</i> :.....	13
1. C.S. 101 (or 125)	
2. Select one course from MSE. 401, PHYCS 427, or CHEM 444	
3. At least 6 hours of other 300 or 400-level science, math, or engineering courses selected with advisor approval.	
F. Total hours.....	126

Environmental Geology Option Requirements	Hours
A. <i>Geology</i> : GEOL 107 ² , 208, 380, 401, 451 (or 452), 470,	23 - 24
B. <i>Physics</i> : PHYCS 211 and 212 (or 101 and 102).....	8-10
C. <i>Mathematics</i> : MATH 220 or 221, 231, and 241.....	11-12
D. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 102/103 and 104/105 (or 202 203, 204, 205).....	8-9
E. <i>Statistics</i> : STAT 400 or CPSC 440.....	4
F. <i>Additional technical requirement</i> : Select from the following courses. At least 9 hours must be geology courses and at least 9 hours must be non geology courses. CEE 330, CHEM 232, CS 101, CS 125, ENVS 431, ENVS 451, GEOG 477, GEOI 411, GEOL 417 ³ , GEOL 432, GEOL 436, GEOL 440, GEOL 460, MATH 225, MATH 415, MATH 285 or MATH 441, MCB 100, MCB 101, PHYS 213, PHYS 214, STAT 420, TAM 210, TAM 211.....	24
G. Total hours.....	126

1. Students transferring into the geology concentration from another science or engineering program may substitute up to 8 hours of 300-or 400-level science or engineering credits for 8 hours of 300-or 400-level geology courses with departmental approval.

2. Students who decide to follow the curriculum after first taking GEOL 100 or 101 or 103 or 111 should enroll in GEOL 208. Students who have taken GEOL 108 and are not taking the GEOL 107 field trip are required to take GEOL 110. GEOL 101, GEOL 100 or 103 or 111 will be accepted as a substitute for GEOL 107, but students should be aware that these courses are not intended for science majors.

3. GEOL 417 is a 6-hour summer field course taught off campus.

GEOLOGY MAJOR, SCIENCES AND LETTERS CURRICULUM

Geology courses: 29-30 hours

Supporting course work: 21 hours (as specified below)

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences

The Sciences and Letters Curriculum major in geology is designed for students who want a more flexible course of study than is provided by the specialized curriculum in geology and geophysics. It may be used by those wishing to obtain a more liberal education and/or a background in geology for use in fields such as anthropology, business, mineral economics, regional planning, journalism, law, sales, or library and information science. It is not intended to prepare a student for graduate work in the geological sciences unless the student selects additional courses in mathematics, chemistry, and physics comparable to those required in the geology and geophysics curriculum.

Core Requirements:	Hours
1. <i>Geology</i> : GEOL 107 and 208	8
2. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 102 and 103	4
3. <i>Math</i> : MATH 220 or 221 or 234 (an introductory statistics course such as STAT 100, SOC 280, ECON 202, or a second semester of Calculus is recommended.)	9-13

Additional Requirements beyond the Core Requirements:	Hours
1. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 104 and 105	4
2. <i>Physics</i> : PHYCS 101 or 211	4 – 5
3. <i>Geol</i> : GEOL 411, 417 ² , 432, and 436, 420 or 440	21 – 22
4. <i>Cognate science electives</i> or other advanced geology courses	3 – 4

Total Hours: 47 - 52³

Minimum total credit hours for graduation: 120

1. Students who decide to follow the curriculum after first taking GEOL 100 or 101 or 103 or 111 should enroll in GEOL 208. Students who have taken GEOL 108 and are not taking the GEOL 107 field trip are required to take GEOL 110. GEOL 101, GEOL 100 or GEOL 111 will be accepted as a substitute for GEOL 107, but students should be aware that these courses are not intended for science majors.

2. GEOL 417 is a summer field course taught off campus.

Twelve advanced hours (i.e., 400 and approved 300 –level hours) must be taken on this campus.

All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.

Departmental Distinctions: Students who maintain a grade-point-average of at least 3.5 in all geology courses and 3.0 in all other science and mathematics courses and who complete an acceptable senior thesis, including at least 4 hours of credit in GEOL 492 or 493, are recommended for graduation with distinction.

EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CONCENTRATION

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences

This major is designed for students wishing to have a more liberal education with a special emphasis on earth and environmental sciences. It requires a total of 41 – 49 credit hours in Earth and other Environmental Sciences. The required core courses and some suggested supporting courses are listed below.

Core Requirements:	Hours
1. <i>Geology</i> : GEOL 107 and 208	8
2. <i>Chemistry</i> : CHEM 102 and 103	4
3. <i>Math</i> : MATH 220 or 221 or 234 (an introductory statistics course such as STAT 100, SOC 280, ECON 202, or a second semester of Calculus is recommended.)	3 – 5

Suggested Supporting Course Work beyond the Core Requirements:	Hours
1. ATMS 140, or GEOL 118	3
2. GEOL 333, or GEOL 432	4
3. GEOL 380	4
4. Additional Advanced Geology Courses	10 – 12
5. Environmental Studies Electives (see advisor for list of approved courses)	6 – 8

Total Hours: 41 - 49²

Minimum total credit hours for graduation: 120

¹Students who decide to follow the curriculum after first taking GEOL 100 or 101 or 103 or 111 should enroll in GEOL 208. Students who have taken 108 and are not taking the GEOL 107 field trip are required to take GEOL 110. GEOL 101 or GEOL 100 will be accepted as a substitute for GEOL 107, but students should be aware that these courses are not intended for science majors.

² Twelve advanced hours (i.e., 400 and approved 300 –level hours) must be taken on this campus.

Departmental Distinctions: Students who maintain a grade-point-average of at least 3.5 in all geology and approved environmental elective courses and 3.0 in all other science and mathematics courses and who complete an acceptable senior thesis, including at least 4 hours of credit in GEOL 492 or 493, are recommended for graduation with distinction.

EARTH SCIENCE TEACHING CONCENTRATION

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Completion of this option fulfills state certification requirements to teach both earth science and general science. In order to remain in good standing in this program and be recommended for certification, candidates are required to maintain UIUC, cumulative, content area, and professional education grade-point averages of 2.5 (A=4.0). Candidates should consult their advisor or the Council on Teacher Education for the list of courses used to compute these grade-point averages.

E-mail: geology@uiuc.edu

Web address for department: <http://www.geology.uiuc.edu/>

Minimum required course work normally equates to 61-64 hours.

General education: Students must fulfill the LAS general education requirements. In addition, students must take one of the following speech performance courses; SPCM 101, 113, 120, 321, or 323. Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

Departmental distinction: The student must have a grade-point average of at least 3.5 in all geology courses as well as all courses in the Teacher Education Minor and a GPA of at least 3.0 in all other science and mathematics courses and must present evidence of exemplary teaching.

Prerequisites to transfer to the Teaching Option (must be completed or be in progress): EPSY 201; EPS 201 or 202; CHEM 102; Chem 103; MATH 220 or 234; GEOL 107; and GEOL 333. In addition, the student is required to pass the State Basic Skills Test before application to the teaching minor.

In addition to the requirements for the option listed below, students must complete the Teacher Education Minor in Secondary School Teaching (37 hours). See the College of Education section for requirements of the minor – <http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/CTE>. Conferral of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences prior to completion of the minor requires approval by petition to the LAS Student Affairs Office. Ordinarily, all students will require 10 semesters to complete this program.

REQUIREMENTS	HOURS
Select one group of courses:	5-6
ASTR 100 – Perspective in Astronomy	
ASTR 113 – The Sky	
ASTR 100 – Perspective in Astronomy	
ASTR 131 – The Solar System Lab	
ASTR 132 – Stars and Galaxies Lab	
Or	
ASTR 121 – The Solar System	
ASTR 122 – Stars and Galaxies	
ATMS 100 – Introduction to Meteorology	3
IB 101 – Biological Sciences	4
Select one group of courses	4
CHEM 102 – General Chemistry I	
CHEM 103 – General Chemistry Lab I	
Or	
CHEM 202 – Accelerated Chemistry I	
CHEM 203 – Accelerated Chemistry Lab I	
GEOI 107 – Physical Geology	4
GEOI 208 – Historical Geology ¹	4
GEOL 117 – The Oceans	3
GEOL 143 – History of Life	3
GEOL 333* – Earth Materials and the Environment	4
Advanced-hour course work in Geology	8
Select one:	4-5
MATH 220 – Calculus I OR	
MATH 221 – Calculus I OR	
MATH 234 - Calculus for Business I	
Select one group of courses:	10-12
PHYS 101 – College Physics, Mech & Heat	
PHYS 102 – College Physics, E&M & Modern	
Or	
PHYS 211 – Univ Physics, Mechanics	
PHYS 212 – Univ Physics, Elec & Mag	
PHYS 213 – Univ Physics, Thermal Physics	
PHYS 214 – Univ Physics, Quantum Phys	

*Students can substitute GEOL 333 Earth Materials and the Environment with GEOL 432 Mineralogy and Mineral Optics.

Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken on this campus.
All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.

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GEOLOGY MINOR

The geology minor is designed for students who desire a significant background in geology to support study and practice of their major field. Selection of courses at the 300- or 400-level will depend on the major and interests of the student.

Requirements	Hours
GEOL 107 ¹ , 108 ¹	8
At least 10 hours from GEOL 333, GEOL 380, or 400-level courses	
Taught within the Dept. of Geology.....	10
Total required in the minor: at least.....	18

¹Students who decide to follow the curriculum after first taking GEOL 100 or 103 or 101 or 111 should enroll in GEOL 208. Students who have taken GEOL 108 and are not taking the GEOL 107 field trip are required to take GEOL 110. GEOL 101, GEOL 111 or GEOL 100 will be accepted as a substitute for GEOL 107, but students should be aware that these courses are not intended for science majors.

COURSE RELATED MATTERS

Timing and Sequencing of Required Courses

Students start their major at different times in their academic career and they have different degree and career goals. Thus, it is impossible to suggest a semester by semester program of study that will fit every student. Pages 15 and 16 give sample course schedules for students interested in the specialized curriculum in geology and geophysics. They assume freshman entrance in geology and previous background sufficient to begin foreign language at the 2nd year level, if that requirement was not fulfilled in high school. Students should use the sample programs and the suggestions below as guides for planning their academic program in consultation with an advisor.

Mathematics: Both geology and geophysics students should start the calculus sequence as soon as possible, preferably during the freshman year.

Chemistry: Geology students should start chemistry as soon as possible, preferably during the freshman year. Geophysics students should start during the sophomore year or as soon as possible thereafter.

Physics: Geology students should start physics when they have finished chemistry, generally during the sophomore year. Geophysics students should start physics as soon as possible, preferably during the freshman year.

Geology: Geology students should start as soon as possible, preferably taking GEOL 107 and 108 during the freshman year. Geophysics students should start during either the freshman or sophomore year. The following suggestions assume the student to have taken GEOL 107 and 108 (or equivalents) during either the freshman or sophomore year. If a student starts later, geology students should do the courses recommended for field camp (411, 432, 436, and 143 or 440) as soon as possible. Courses listed below as required include all 300 or 400-level geology courses specifically required in one of our programs, the geology major and the geology and geophysics options in the curriculum in geology and geophysics. For the environmental geology option, GEOL 401, and 470 will be among those courses. Faculty absences from campus (sabbatical leaves) occasionally cause the normal course schedule to be modified, and some courses may not be offered during every academic year. An advisor will know of these situations and will work with each student in making the required adjustments.

FALL COURSES:

Required:

- 411 - Junior year; possibly sophomore year
- 432 - Sophomore year; no later than junior year; immediately after CHEM 102/106
- 440 - Junior year; possibly sophomore year
- 452 - Primarily for geophysics students, junior or senior year; after PHYCS 212 and MATH 241

Optional:

- 470 - Junior or senior year; after MATH 220 or 221
- 471 - Junior or senior year; not offered every year

SPRING COURSES:

Required:

- 143 - Sophomore, junior, or senior year
- 436 - Sophomore year; always immediately after GEOL 432
- 450 - Primarily for geology students, junior or senior year; after PHYCS 212 or 102, GEOL 432 and 411
- 460 - Junior or senior year, after CHEM 104/105 and GEOL 436

Optional:

- 401 - Sophomore, junior or senior year
- 451 - Junior or senior year; not offered every year
- 482 - Junior or senior year

SUMMER COURSES:

Required:

- 417 - After junior year; after GEOL 411, 432, 436 and 143 or 440

**SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE FOR
THE SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM IN GEOLOGY OPTION**

The sample contains courses required for the specialized curriculum in geology option; geology majors in the sciences and letters curriculum should use it as a guide for scheduling those courses required in the major.

<u>Fall Semester</u>		<u>FRESHMAN</u>		<u>Spring Semester</u>	
<u>FRESHMAN</u>					
GEOLOGY 107	4			GEOLOGY 208	4
MATH 220 or 221	5			MATH 231	3
CHEM 102/103	4			CHEM 104/105	4
RHET 105	3			For Lang ¹ /LAS Area I	3 or 4
	16				15
<u>SOPHOMORE</u>					
GEOLOGY 432 ²	4			GEOLOGY 436	4
MATH 225 (or 415)	3			MATH 241 or 380	2 or 3
PHYCS 211 (101)	4 or 5			PHYCS 212 (102)	4 or 5
For Lang ¹ /LAS Area I	3 or 4			LAS Area I Gen.Ed.	3
	14 - 16			Free Elective	3 or 4
					16 - 19
<u>JUNIOR</u>					
GEOLOGY 143	4			GEOLOGY 440	3
GEOLOGY 411	4			GEOLOGY 460	3
LAS Area I Gen. Ed.	3			LAS Area I Gen. Ed.	3
Req. Tech Elect.	3 or 4			Free Elective	6 or 7
	14 - 15				15 - 16
<u>SENIOR</u>					
GEOLOGY 3__ or 4 __	3 or 4			GEOLOGY 450 (or 452)	3 or 4
LAS Area I Gen.Ed.	3			GEOLOGY 3__ or 4__	3 or 4
Free Elective	10			LAS Area I Gen.Ed.	3
	16 - 17			Free Elective	6 or 7
					15 - 18

Total Credit Hours Required = 126

¹The foreign language requirement should be completed before starting LAS Area I general education requirements. Depending on high school background, more or less than the two semester of foreign language shown here may be required.

²If chemistry is not finished, take GEOLOGY 143 or 411 in the fall and GEOLOGY 440 in the spring; GEOLOGY 432 and 436 should be taken the next year.

**SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE FOR THE SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM IN GEOLOGY –
GEOPHYSICS OPTION**

<u>Fall Semester</u>		<u>FRESHMAN</u>	<u>Spring Semester</u>	
PHYS 211	4		PHYS 212	4
MATH 220 or 221	5		MATH 231	3
RHET 105	3		C S 101 (or 125)	3
GEOL 107 ²	4		For Lang ¹ /LAS Area I G.E.	3 or 4
	16		GEOL 208	4
			17 or 18	
<u>SOPHOMORE</u>				
PHYS 213	2		LAS Area I G.E.	3
CHEM 102/103	4		CHEM 104/105	4
MATH 241 or 380	3		MATH 225 or 415	2
For Lang ¹ /LAS Area I	3 or 4		PHYS 214	4
	12 or 13		15 or 17	
<u>JUNIOR</u>				
GEOL 452	4		PHYCS 325 or TAM 210/212	4 or 5
Required Tech. Elective	3		MATH 285	3
LAS Area I G.E.	3		Thermodynamics	3
Free Elective ³	3 or 4		LAS Area I G.E.	3
	13 or 14		Free Elective ³	2
			15 or 16	
<u>SENIOR</u>				
Required Geol. Elect.	3 or 4		Required Geol. Elect.	3 or 4
Required Geol. Elect.	3 or 4		Required Tech. Elect.	3
LAS Area I G.E.	3		LAS Area I G.E.	3
Free Elective	7		Free Elective	7
	16 or 18		16 or 17	

Total Credit Hours Required = 126

¹The foreign language requirement should be completed before starting LAS Area I general education requirements. Depending on high school background, more or less than the two semesters of foreign language shown here may be required.

²As an alternative, GEOL 107 and 208 could be taken during the sophomore year.

³A required geology or technical elective could be taken if prerequisites have been satisfied.

Pass/Fail Option

If you wish to use this option, you should check rules concerning pass/fail in the LAS Student Handbook. Note that required science courses may not be taken pass/fail.

Geology Field Camp

Students in the geology option of the specialized curriculum, or in the sciences and letters curriculum must complete the summer field course (GEOL 417) in Utah, or an equivalent course taught elsewhere and approved by the department. The field course generally should not be taken until after completion of GEOL 411, 432, 436 and 143 or 440.

Foreign Language

You should finish your foreign language requirement as early in your undergraduate career as possible. Some PhD programs require proficiency in one foreign language; knowledge of French, German and Russian in particular will facilitate a career in science.

Independent Study, Undergraduate Research and Senior Thesis

Undergraduate students may receive credit for independent study or research in geology by registering in one of the following:

GEOL 390, Independent Study; GEOL 391, Honors Independent Study;
GEOL 492, Undergraduate Thesis; GEOL 493 Honors Undergraduate Thesis

If you wish to enroll, you must receive the consent of the supervising faculty member before registration in any of these courses. A thesis must be completed to receive credit in GEOL 492 or 493. A leaflet on thesis format is available from the LAS Office or from Marilyn; consult it and follow all rules carefully in order to avoid major last-minute corrections. Completed theses must be turned in by the last day of instruction of a given semester.

A maximum of 10 hours of credit in thesis work may be counted towards a bachelors degree.

The "Honors Programs" section in the current LAS Student Handbook describes the opportunities for honors work. The college sets requirements for most honors study by LAS students. However, the Geology Department sets its own requirements for Departmental Distinction that are described below. The Geology Department awards distinction without designation of level.

If you expect to graduate with Distinction in Geology or Earth Science Teaching, you should arrange for a senior thesis advisor by the end of the Junior year. You should also notify Marilyn early in your senior year of the intent to work toward graduation with Distinction in Geology or in Earth Science Teaching. You do not have to be a James Scholar in order to graduate with departmental distinction.

Petitions

Under very special conditions it is appropriate to petition for a variance from a rule or regulation. Certain petitions go to the departmental Undergraduate Committee (filed with Marilyn), whereas others go to the LAS College Office (270 Lincoln Hall). The following section outlines where the most common kinds of requests should go.

--Petitions to Geology Department

for Specialized Curriculum: choice of general education, geology and supporting science courses.
for Sciences and Letters Curriculum: choice of geology and supporting science courses.

--Petitions to LAS College Office

for Specialized Curriculum: foreign language.
for Sciences and Letters Curriculum: foreign language, general education.

Substitution of Major Course Requirements

Under unusual circumstances, you may substitute equivalent or more advanced courses for required courses; a petition (form available from Marilyn) must be submitted to the Chairman of the Undergraduate Committee for approval and inclusion in your file. A student will not be included on graduation rosters unless all courses are completed or substitutions have been approved.

Warning About Dropping Courses

Note that the "Academic Calendar" for each semester (e.g. see Timetable) lists a "Latest date for undergraduate students to drop a semester course without academic penalty". If you are considering dropping a course, remember all students must maintain a minimum number of course hours to retain full-time status.

Although it is possible to petition (LAS) for drops after that date, such petitions will be granted only for very special situations, such as serious illness. Petitions will not be granted simply to enable a student to avoid a low grade.

GRADUATION AND LATER

Graduation with Distinction in Geology

If you maintain a minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.5 in all geology courses, and 3.0 in all other science and mathematics courses, and if you complete a senior thesis with at least 4 hours credit in GEOL 492 or 493, you will be recommended for graduation with Departmental Distinction in Geology. Note that the earth science teaching option has different requirements for graduation with distinction.

Departmental Citation

Each spring the faculty awards departmental citations to the outstanding and runner-up undergraduates on the basis of excellence of past work in geology, geophysics, environmental sciences, or earth science teaching, and the promise for future work.

Graduate Work

Almost all professional work in geology today requires graduate training.

Undergraduates contemplating graduate work should make plans well in advance of graduation. Students may obtain information about the University of Illinois Graduate College at the Graduate College Office (202 Coble Hall). The requirements for graduate study at the University of Illinois are representative of those at most other universities. You may seek advice on graduate study from your advisor, or faculty in your area of interest.

Undergraduates planning to begin graduate school in the following fall semester are urged to apply to several schools during the fall semester of their senior year. Students who plan to begin graduate work in the Spring Semester should apply during the fall semester of their junior year.

Undergraduates with high grade point averages may apply to take graduate courses for graduate credit. The procedure is described in detail in the current [LAS Student Handbook](#).

Seniors expecting to do graduate work should take the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE). Most institutions or departments require or recommend them. Moreover, it is best to have GRE's already in hand if it becomes necessary to apply at the last minute to a graduate school that requires these exams. You should plan to take GRE's by the December offering in order for the scores to be available in time for admission decisions by most departments.

GRE information and application can be obtained at the Records Office, 144 Computer Application Bldg..

Undergraduate Placement

Undergraduates should realize that permanent job opportunities for individuals lacking a graduate degree are limited and that work in such jobs tends to be routine.

Placement for available positions is handled in a number of ways. An undergraduate should initially contact the departmental Placement Coordinator and indicate his/her date of graduation and what sort of job is being sought. Undergraduates are encouraged to discuss placement opportunities with their advisors and instructors.

The Career Center (715 S. Wright St., 333-0820) provides a wide variety of services and aids for students and alumni seeking employment, including: counseling, classes and seminars in career searching and planning; bi-weekly Job Vacancy Bulletin; on-campus job interview scheduling service; a credentials file service; government job announcements and tests; and help in resume writing. The office also has information on and guides to graduate work and schools. Students in the Earth Science Teaching Curriculum (ESTC) should also use the placement services offered by the Educational Placement Office (140 Education Bldg., 333-0740), which include: a weekly Vacancy Bulletin, help in writing resumes, placement consultants, information on overseas teaching positions, a credentials file service, and information on school districts across the United States.

After declaring geology as your major, you will be included in the department email list announcing job opportunities both inside and outside the university.

OTHER MATTERS

Study Abroad

Because geology is a global subject, it is especially appropriate for geology students with strong backgrounds and good academic records to take advantage of the Study Abroad program. An application for full year study abroad must be submitted to the Director of the Study Abroad program by late in the calendar year before intended departure. Single semester programs are also available. The Study Abroad office is in 115 International Studies Bldg., 910 S Fifth.

Geology Club

The Geology Club is organized and operated by the undergraduate students, in conjunction with faculty members and graduate students. It organizes field trips, visits to museums, and other activities. The Geology Club also prepares and staffs the Geology exhibits at Engineering Open House each year. All are encouraged to join.

Colloquium

The Geology Department sponsors colloquia on many topics in geology at 4:00 P.M. on Fridays. Coffee, tea and cookies are served in 206 Natural History Bldg. prior to the day's colloquium. Colloquia provides a good opportunity for undergraduates to broaden their backgrounds. Many talks will be challenging to the undergraduate level of experience, but provide insights into current research in a variety of disciplines. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.