**GEOGRAPHY, MA**

*for the degree of Master of Arts in Geography*

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Director of Graduate Studies: Dr. Brian Jefferson  
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email: geography@illinois.edu  
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2044 Natural History Building  
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Urbana, IL 61801  

College of LAS website (https://LAS.illinois.edu/)  
Graduate College Admissions (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)

Graduate Degree Programs in Geography & Geographic Information Science

Geography, MA (p. 1)  
Geography, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/geometry-ms/)  
**concentrations:**  
Geographic Information Science - Professional Science Master's (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/geometry-ms/geographic-information-science-professional-science-masters/)  
Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/computational-science-engineering/)  

Geography, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/geography-phd/)  
**concentration:**  
Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/computational-science-engineering/)  

We offer a program leading to the Master of Arts in geography with the following specialization:

- Cities, Space, and Society  
  Urban health and quality of life; Urban governance and politics; Race, class, and city policing; Critical studies of urban transportation and mobilities; Global north and south; Neoliberalization

**Admission**

Students applying for admission to the master's program are expected to have a strong undergraduate background in geography and/or related disciplines. In addition to other Graduate College admission requirements, a grade point average of at least 3.0 (A = 4.0) in the undergraduate major is required. GRE scores are not required or evaluated for admission to our graduate programs.

**Assistantships and Fellowships**

Geography graduate students are usually supported and receive tuition/fee waivers through teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships.

**Graduate Teaching Experience**

Although previous teaching experience is not a Graduate College requirement, it is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program. We have implemented a professionalization program in our department, where graduate students work with faculty members to receive advice and gain first-hand experience in teaching undergraduate courses. Several graduate students have also served as lead instructor for several of our introductory undergraduate courses.

**Map and Geography Library**

The University Library has a substantial collection of geography books and journals. Most of the new and more recent books are located in the Social Sciences, Health, and Education Library (SSHEL); nearly all geography journals are available full-text through the University Library's website. The Map Library holds a collection of over 626,000 maps and aerial photographs. Additionally, the Map Library houses an extensive collection of books on cartography and geographic information science and the University Library's Scholarly Commons can help students locate and collect geospatial data.

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For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Programs (http://www.geog.illinois.edu/students/grad/) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

**Thesis Option**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 471</td>
<td>Recent Trends in Geog Thought</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 491</td>
<td>Research in Geography</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each student must also fulfill program requirements specific to his/her specialty area

GEOG 599 Thesis Research (8 max applied toward degree) 8

**Total Hours** 32

**Non-Thesis Option**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other requirements may overlap</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Some Geography program options do not allow the non-thesis Master's degree option. Contact the department for further details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two written research papers which address substantive research questions are required along with a comprehensive examination.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A maximum of 2 elective courses may be taken CR/NC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Overall Required</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Within the Unit:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</td>
<td>12 (8 in Geog)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum GPA:</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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</tbody>
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