GEOLOGY, BSLAS

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in Geology (Sciences & Letters)

department website: https://www.geology.illinois.edu/
undergraduate

department faculty: Geology Faculty (https://
www.geology.illinois.edu/people/)

advising: Geology advising (https://www.geology.illinois.edu/cms/
One.aspx?portalid=127672&pageld=258530)

overview of college admissions & requirements: Liberal Arts &
Sciences (http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/)

college website: https://las.illinois.edu/
email: geology@illinois.edu

The Sciences and Letters Curriculum in Geology (BSLAS), administered
by the Department of 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 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 Specialized
Geology and Geophysics Curriculum. Students must choose from the
following: Geology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, or Earth Science
Teaching. The Earth Science Teaching Concentration is designed for
students preparing to teach earth science at the secondary school level.

Undergraduate Degree Programs in Geology

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

Students select one of the following in consultation with an adviser:

• Major in Geology (Sciences and Letters) (p. 1)
• Major in Geology (Sciences and Letters), Earth and Environmental
  Sciences Concentration (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/
las/geology-bslas/earth-environmental-sciences/)
• Major in Geology (Sciences and Letters), Earth Science Teaching
  Concentration (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geology-
bslas/earth-science-teaching/)

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Geology

Students select one of the following in consultation with an adviser:

• Major in Geology (Specialized Curriculum) (http://catalog.illinois.edu/
  undergraduate/las/geology-bs/)
• Major in Geology (Specialized Curriculum), Environmental Geology
  Concentration (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geology-
bs/environmental-geology/)
• Major in Geology (Specialized Curriculum), Geophysics Concentration
  (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/geology-bs/
geophysics/)

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts & Sciences Major in
Geology (Sciences & Letters)

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

Core requirements:

- GEOL 107 Physical Geology 1
- GEOL 208 History of the Earth System
- CHEM 102 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 103 General Chemistry Lab I

Select one of the following MATH courses: 2

- MATH 220 Calculus
- or MATH 221 Calculus I
- MATH 234 Calculus for Business I

Additional requirements beyond the core requirements:

- CHEM 104 General Chemistry II
- CHEM 105 General Chemistry Lab II
- PHYS 101 College Physics: Mechanics
- or PHYS 211 University Physics: Mechanics
- GEOL 411 Structural Geol and Tectonics
- GEOL 417 Geol Field Methods, Western US 3
- GEOL 432 Mineralogy and Mineral Optics
- GEOL 436 Petrology and Petrography
- GEOL 440 Sedimentology and Stratigraphy

Three to four hours of advanced Geology or cognate science elective

1 Students who decide to follow the curriculum after first taking GEOL 100
or GEOL 103 should enroll in GEOL 208. GEOL 100 or GEOL 103 will be
accepted as a substitute for GEOL 107, but students should be aware
that these courses are not intended for science majors.

2 An introductory Statistics course, e.g., STAT 100, SOC 280,
ECON 202, or a second semester of Calculus is recommended

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

Departmental Distinction: Students majoring in Geology can earn
distinction, high distinction, and highest distinction upon graduation. The
requirements for these awards are:

- Distinction: A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3, and have
also completed an approved independent study project, approved senior
thesis, or approved capstone

- High Distinction: A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5, and
have also completed an approved independent study project, approved
senior thesis, or approved capstone

- Highest Distinction: A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.7,
and also completed an approved senior thesis or approved research

General education: Students must complete the Campus General
Education (https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/) requirements including the campus general education language
requirement.

Minimum required major and supporting course work: Minimum
required course work normally equates to 47-52 hours including at
least 26 hours in Geology. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level in
the major must be taken on this campus.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

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Code Title Hours

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- GEOL 432 Mineralogy and Mineral Optics 4
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