

The below curriculum outlines the requirements of the Geography MA program. **Most of the required courses are offered only once per year (Fall or Spring only).** If students have questions or need to deviate from the below plan, contact a [graduate advisor](#) to review options.

Year One

<i>Fall (7.0 credits)</i>	Credits
GCU 528 Geographic Problems and Context* (<i>Online Students</i>) OR	3.0
GCU 529 Contemporary Geographic Thought* (<i>Campus Students</i>)	
GCU/GPH 591 Seminar: Geography Colloquium	1.0
GCU 596 Geographic Research Methods** (<i>Online Students</i>) OR	3.0
Approved Graduate Elective OR	
Approved Methods or Statistics Course***	
<i>Spring (7.0 credits)</i>	
GCU 585 Geographic Research Design and Proposal Writing** (<i>Campus Students</i>) OR	3.0
Approved Graduate Elective	
GCU/GPH 591 Seminar: Geography Colloquium	1.0
Approved Graduate Elective OR	3.0
Approved Methods or Statistics Course***	

Year Two

<i>Fall (10.0 credits)</i>	
Approved Graduate Elective or Research	10.0
<i>Spring (6.0 credits)</i>	
Approved Graduate Elective (<i>Online Students</i>)	3.0
Culminating Experience (choose one):	
GPH 597 Geography Capstone (<i>Online Students</i>)	3.0
GCU/GPH 599 Thesis (<i>Campus Students</i>)	6.0
Total credits required for MA Geography degree	30.0

* Students are required to take either GCU 528 or GCU 529.

** Students are required to take either GCU 585 or GCU 596.

*** Students are required to take three (3) credits of an approved methods or statistics course. It is recommended that this be completed at some point during the first year.

Core and Other Requirements

The listed classes are required and cannot be waived or substituted.

MA Geography students are required to take three (3) credits of an *approved methods and/or statistics course*. A list of methods and statistics courses currently approved can be found on the [MA Geography Approved Methods & Statistics Courses](#) list. Courses not on the list can be petition for and approved by SGSUP's AD of Graduate Studies. Submit the [Petition for Transfer or Interdisciplinary Elective Courses](#) form to request approval.

Electives

Any graduate level GCU, GIS, GPH, or PUP course may be taken as elective, including Research and Reading & Conference credits. Interdisciplinary courses may be taken, but must be approved by the department. Submit the [Petition for Transfer or Interdisciplinary Elective Courses](#) form to request approval. **A maximum of six (6.0) credits of 400-level coursework may be included on the plan of study.**

Culminating Experience

Online Geography MA students take the geography capstone course to complete the program. This course builds upon program completed work that allows for the student to apply learned concepts to real-world geographic problems while building upon their professional tools to further their careers. Students will complete a professional portfolio of work that includes a written report and an oral presentation. **This course is only offered during the B session in the fall and spring semesters.** Students must earn a grade of B or better to be used toward the MA degree.

For **campus immersion** students, thesis credits may be taken in any combination that adds up to six (6.0) credits, but students are recommended to take them in the final year of the program. Students should consult with faculty advisor prior to enrolling in thesis.

Time to Completion

The Geography MA degree is designed to be completed in two years (on average; Fall and Spring enrollment only). Full-time enrollment for graduate students is nine (9.0) credits; Research and Teaching Assistants are considered full-time at six (6.0) credit hours.

Graduate Student Forms are available at

<https://sgsup.asu.edu/student-life/graduate-resources/graduate-student-forms>