FR 321 France Today (4)

French civilization — history, social and political institutions, and the arts — as revealed in written documents and visual media (architecture, painting, graphics, etc.), from the Revolution to the present. Readings, discussion, and oral and written reports in French. Prerequisite: FR 300 (may be taken concurrently). Satisfies GE Area C3 (Comparative Perspectives and Foreign Languages).

FR 410 French Literature (4)

Readings in theatre, prose, and poetry representing major writers and movements from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, Classical, and the pre-Romantic periods. May be organized around themes or genres or by aesthetic movements. Readings, discussion, and oral and written reports in French. Prerequisite: FR 320. Satisfies GE Area C3 (Comparative Perspectives and Foreign Languages).

FR 411 French Literature (4)

Readings in theatre, prose, and poetry representing major writers and movements from the 19th and 20th centuries. May be organized around themes or genres or by aesthetic movements. Readings, discussion, and oral and written reports in French. Prerequisite: FR 321. Satisfies GE Area C3 (Comparative Perspectives and Foreign Languages).

FR 415 Special Topics in French Culture (4)

Topics vary according to current interests and issues, e.g. the Francophone world, Paris, the French film, French feminism, French impressionism, Theatre and society, etc. Readings, discussions, and oral and written reports. May be repeated for credit when topics change. Prerequisite: FR 320 or 321 (may be taken concurrently). Satisfies GE Area C3 (Comparative Perspectives and Foreign Languages).

FR 475 Senior Seminar (4)

An advanced writing course, culminating in a research paper on a literary topic, or a substantial piece of creative writing. This course may only be taken at SSU. It may not be taken abroad or at another U.S. university. Prerequisite: FR 321 or 411 (may be taken concurrently). Satisfies GE Area C3 (Comparative Perspectives and Foreign Languages).

FR 495 Special Studies (1-4)

Directed individual study. Prerequisite: consent of instructor. May be repeated once for credit.

FR 499 Internship (1-4)

Students in the internship program apply skills and methods mastered in their course work in French in a variety of situations in public and private agencies. Credit is awarded for completion of 3 hours of work (weekly average) per unit, participation in a seminar or conferences, and a final report. Placement must be arranged in advance with department coordinator. May be repeated once for credit

Geography (GEOG)

GEOG 201 Global Environmental Systems (4)

This course presents a broad survey of how the earth works. It focuses on the processes within, and the relationships between, the four global sub-systems: the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere. The course examines how physical, chemical, and biological functions create local, regional, and global climate and landscape patterns. It also explores the links between human activities and changes in climate, vegetation patterns, and landform processes. The course includes weekly two-hour lab sessions in which students participate in field-based data collection exercises and conduct scientific analyses. Satisfies GE Area B1 (Physical Science).

GEOG 202 World Regional Geography (3)

This course explores 4-5 world regions from a holistic perspective, examining their economic, political, demographic, cultural, and environmental landscapes with considerable historic depth. The course also considers how each region fits within a larger global, political and economic system, and how their roles have changed, particularly with globalization. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

GEOG 203 Human Geography (3)

The course introduces students to a spatial perspective of cultural, economic, political, demographic, and environmental processes. We review the deep historical origins of many social processes and examine how they continue to influence our contemporary experience. We also study how these processes change as they move across geographic space and encounter other cultures and places. Satisfies GE Area D2 (World History and Civilization).

GEOG 302 World Regions in Global Context (4)

Selected regions of the world form the basis of study. Economic development, political problems, man-land relationships, and global issues are covered. The course uses geographical methodologies and concepts and is interdisciplinary in its observations of world regions. Satisfies GE Area D5 (Contemporary International Perspectives).

GEOG 312 Geographic Conferences (1-2)

Students attend a professional meeting in the Western Region, including but not limited to CGS, APCG, and AAG meetings. Students participate in at least one day of professionally-led field trips organized through the conference and one day of scholarly presentations. A fee will be charged for this course. Course may be repeated for credit. Up to 2 units of GEOG 312 in total may be counted towards the major.

GEOG 313 Field Experience Abroad (2-3)

Field Experience outside the United States (2-3). Cultural and physical studies of people and laces through travel, observation and interaction, and oral and written analysis. Destinations include Central and south American countries. Course contents and locations will vary; may be repeated for credit. Check with instructor regarding destination and cost. Offered during Intersession or Summer Session. Prerequisite: consent of the instructor.

GEOG 314 Field Experience (1-2)

Field experience is provided in a variety of topical areas. The course titles and contents will vary and may be repeated for credit. Please see the current Schedule of Classes for the particular topic offered. A fee will be charged for this course. Up to 2 units of GEOG 314 in total may be counted toward the major

GEOG 315 Field Methods in Geography (2)

This course provides hands-on experience with field sampling techniques commonly used in biophysical data collection and spatial inquiry. Course topics include sample design, field measurements, statistical data analysis, report writing, and the use of field equipment. Field work will be conducted mainly in the Fairfield Osborn Preserve and surrounding area. Data collected from vegetation sampling, soil descriptions, microclimate measurements, and geomorphologic observations will be used to interpret the natural and anthropogenic landscape. Throughout the course, students will work with Global Positioning System (GPS) units to accurately locate their field samples on the Earth, allowing for subsequent spatial analysis. Laboratory fee may be charged; see current Schedule of Classes.

GEOG 316 Geographic Inquiry (1)

This field based course is meant to help seniors prepare for original research associated with the Senior Seminar the following semester. Through field practice students learn how to formulate research hypotheses and/or questions. The course meets six times. Four meetings are four hours in duration and involve off-campus exercises.

GEOG 317 Lab Methods in Physical Geography (2-3)

This course provides hands-on experience with laboratory analysis techniques commonly used in physical geography. Topics include stratigraphic and laboratory analyses, report writing, and data presentation. Data collected from soil and sediment profiles and tree rings will be used to interpret environmental conditions. Students will follow laboratory methods, protocols, and use analytical equipment. Laboratory fee may be charged; see current Schedule of Classes. Prerequisites: GEOG 201 or consent of instructor.

GEOG 320 Geopolitics (4)

In this course we dig deep into the field of geopolitics, the struggle for control over territory, transportation corridors, and natural resources. We analyze the origin of the discipline, its historical development, and key contemporary issues, including the Iraq War, the U.S. missile defense shield and the expansion of NATO, the promotion of democracy as a security strategy, Iranian nuclear ambitions, and Chinese military expansion. We will also examine the upsurge of nationalism since the end of the Cold War, and examine ethno-national rebellion from multiple perspectives, including the failure of nation-building, the failure of economic development, and competition over scarce natural resources.

GEOG 322 Liberation Ecologies: Globalization, Environmental, and Social Movements (4)

This course examines some of the ways specific places and people have promoted, encountered, and negotiated the projects of development and globalization. We begin with a critical examination of development and globalization and a public narrative that has obscured their origins, intentions, and operations. We will use case studies of specific places where development and globalization have motivated resistance, often leading to new identity-based social movements. We will examine cases related to environmental degradation, land dispossession, gender and justice, and personal and community security. The course has a global perspective which includes, but is not limited to, cases from the Third World. The class often enlists political ecology and political economy perspectives in our analysis.

GEOG 330 Historical Geography of North America (4)

A study of the settlement history of North America and of the changing concepts of man-environment relationships in the chronology of the Europeanization of the American landscape. Investigations into where and why people settled as they did, and the origins of the economic and spatial relationships that constitute the present American scene will be the focus of the course.

GEOG 335 Global Food Systems: Scarcity and Sustainability (4)

This course explores the development of agriculture from its origins to its modern forms. It discusses the historical development and current structure of five agricultural systems: small and large corporate farms in the development of the world, as well as traditional peasant production systems, plantations, and green revolution forms in the developing world. It then considers issues such as world hunger, food aid, global commodity trade, and the affect of biotechnology in both the developed and developing world.

GEOG 338 Social Geography (3)

Studies aspects of demography, migration, and the spatial dimension of social organization. Included in the course are the spatial perspectives of social well-being, poverty, crime, and ethnicity. The spatial structure of human settlement, as well as political, religious, and social values will be discussed. Satisfies upper-division GE Area E (Integrated Person).

GEOG 340 Conservation of Natural Resources (4)

This class explores the use and management of natural resources. Each year, it focuses on a different set of renewable and non-renewable resources, such as water, oil, diamonds, rangeland, and others. It addresses topics such as distribution, scarcity, substitution, access and use-rights, resource cartels, regulation, and sustainability. It also looks at how these issues are changing under globalization and the rise of transnational corporations.

GEOG 350 Urban Geography (4)

A consideration of urban origins, the diffusion of the city, and modern-day inter- and intracity phenomena. Topics to be discussed include urbanization, comparative urban forms, urban functional organization, land use, distribution of cities and their territories, and urban problems - pollution, housing, and open space.

GEOG 352 Climate Change and Society (4)

This course briefly reviews climate change mechanisms and models. It then turns to its main topics: attempts and failures to mitigate greenhouse gas production, specific predicted challenges, and current and future attempts to adapt to the environmental and social impacts related to changing climates. The course compliments GEOG 372.

GEOG 360 Geomorphology (4)

Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Explores the relationships between surface processes such as weathering, mass movements, running water, wind, waves, and glacial ice, and the landforms these processes create. The course looks at geomorphic systems and the role of tectonics and climate in changing the balance of these systems. Actual research projects are presented to demonstrate geomorphic approaches to environmental questions. Students are exposed to research methods in the field and lab. Field trips and field reports, use of maps, and hands-on labs are included. A fee will be charged for this course. Prerequisites: GEOG 201, GEOL 102, or consent of instructor.

GEOG 365 Biogeography (4)

Biogeography is the study of plant and animals distributions at local to global spatial scales, and seeks to understand the physical, biological and human processes that determine these patterns through time. This is a highly integrative field of inquiry pulling on concepts, theories and data from general ecology, evolutionary biology, geology, physical and human geography, and geospatial science. With its perspective on broad spatial and temporal scales, Biogeography is particularly relevant for designing viable long-term strategies for nature conservation in the face of modern human-induced changes, such as global warming and habitat conversion. This course uses lectures, reading assignments and an individual student project to explore past and present biota at regional to global scales, and a field trip to understand our local northern California ecosystems.

GEOG 370 Weather and Climate (4)

An exploration of the atmosphere, how it differs from place to place and time to time. The role of radiation, temperature, humidity, evaporation, cloudiness, precipitation, and surface factors (topography, exposure and altitude) in differentiating world climates. Climate's influence on man physically and culturally, in history and prehistory. Climate change drought and flood, and solar radiation are among the topics investigated in detail. Prerequisite: GEOG 201 or consent of instructor.

GEOG 372 Global Climate Change: Past, Present, and Future (4)

An advanced course focusing on evidence of climate change in the past and potential climate change in the future. Present research methods used to investigate past climate and project possible climatic trends will be studied. The range of theories regarding past, present, and future climate, and the response of the environment to such changes will be explored in detail. Prerequisites: GEOG 201 or ENSP 303 and juniors, seniors, or graduate students only.

GEOG 375 Natural Hazards (3-4)

This course examines natural hazards in relation to human populations and activities around the world. It focuses on disasters generated by weather, climate, and geomorphic processes (such as hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, and earthquakes) as well as global climate change. It considers risk assessment, hazard perception, population change, and impact on the built environment. Prerequisite: GEOG 201 or ENSP 303 or consent of instructor.

GEOG 380 Environmental Remote Sensing (4)

Environmental remote sensing uses imagery from satellite and airborne sensors to map properties of the Earth over broad spatial scales. This course develops an understanding of physical principles behind remote sensing; explores a range of sensors, spatial scales, and locations; and uses image processing techniques for extracting useful environmental information.

GEOG 385 Cartographic Visualization (3-4)

Lecture, 2 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Map and graphic methods in geography: history, design, theory, and construction. Topics include selection of map projections, use of scales, generalization, data input and processing, color, visualization of spatial data, and map production. Emphasis is placed on effective communication through graphic design. Covers the increasing role of geographic information systems (GIS) in cartography. Also examines the collection of geographic data, such as with global positioning systems (GPS). Exercises guide students through increasingly complex methods of data collection and cartographic construction. Laboratory fee may be charged; see current Schedule of Classes.

GEOG 387 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (4)

Geographic information system (GIS) technologies provide researchers and policy-makers with a powerful analytical framework for making decisions and predictions. As with any technology, the appropriate use of GIS depends greatly on the knowledge and skills of the user. This course addresses the scientific and technical aspects of working with geographical data, so that GIS users understand the general principles, opportunities, and pitfalls of recording, collecting, storing, retrieving, analyzing, and presenting spatial information. Both fundamental concepts and "hands on" experience with state-of-the-art software are incorporated through readings, lecture discussion, and laboratory assignments. The first half of the course focuses on the "nuts and bolts" of how a GIS works, while the second half concentrates on methods for spatial analysis and modeling. Prerequisite: Course requires a basic competency with Microsoft operating system and Office applications.

GEOG 390 Geography of California (3)

California as a state and as a region is in many ways unique. This course examines both the singular physical and human aspects of the State, from its unusual geologic history, climate, and vegetation, through its earliest inhabitants, to its present day diverse population, and trend-setting economic, political, and cultural atmosphere. Issues discussed include changing populations and regional differences, evolving urban areas, water resources, agriculture, and forestry.

GEOG 392 Latin America and the Caribbean (4)

From an environmental history perspective, the class begins with an investigation of pre-Columbian and post-contact social ecologies. This leads to analysis of more contemporary processes such as rural modernization, the rapid growth of cities and migration, the role of identity and women, and the dynamics of free-trade globalization and international relations.

GEOG 394 Africa South of the Sahara (4)

Students explore various historical and contemporary processes that have created Africa's diverse and complex geography. The course begins with a historical survey of the continent, starting with its great civilizations and continuing through its experiences through colonialism, independence, the cold war, and globalization. This section of the class examines how these major events have played out throughout the different regions of Africa, south of the Sahara. The class then turns directly to thematic issues that are central to a human-geographic perspective of the continent: population, rural/urban dynamics, education and health issues, and human-environment interactions including agricultural systems and conservation issues. Finally, with a deeper understanding of the region, the course addresses present-day political hot spots of post-cold war Africa, and the critical development problems plaguing the continent.

GEOG 396 Special Topics in Area Studies (4)

This course will cover regions not regularly taught in the department. Regions may include areas such as The Middle East, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Arid lands, The Pacific Rim/World or underdeveloped lands. Offerings will vary depending on visiting faculty, experimental courses, and educational needs.

GEOG 460 Lab Assistant in Geography (2)

Open only to advanced students who have been invited by the faculty member to serve as a Lab Assistant for GEOG 201 Global Environmental Systems. Intended to give students experience in assisting the instructor in the laboratory. Three units may be counted towards the Geography major. Prerequisite: consent of instructor. May be repeated once for credit.

GEOG 483 Environmental GIS (3-4)

Environmental issues typically involve a range of physical, ecological and socio-economic factors with complex interactions that span multiple spatial and temporal scales. Computer-based Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are particularly well-suited for describing, analyzing, and modeling environmental problems and datasets, and the technology is widely used for local- to global-scale research, impact assessment, conservation planning, and natural resource management. This course investigates a range of environmental problems through the unique perspective afforded by geospatial data analysis within a GIS. Lectures introduce the ecological, scientific and societal issues associated with major environmental issues of our time, such as land-use change biodiversity loss, and global carbon emissions. These issues are then quantitatively analyzed with real-world spatial datasets using GIS-based methods and tools in coordinated laboratory exercises. In the process, students extend and strengthen GIS skills and concepts acquired through Geog 387. Prerequisites: Geography 387, basic college-level math, statistics helpful.

GEOG 487 Advanced Geographic Information Systems (3)

This course provides greater depth in the foundations of geographic information systems (GIS). Readings, group discussions, and lectures delve into database development issues, advanced spatial analysis, and GIS research applications. Students also complete a semester-long research project using GIS technologies. Students learn to identify problems that can benefit from a spatial-analytical approach and determine the appropriate data for pursuing such a project. Students build their own GIS database, mastering skills such as digitizing and attributing spatial data, importing data from the internet, collecting field data for GIS integration, and converting GIS layers into a single coordinate system and map projection. Finally, students learn to choose and implement the most appropriate spatial analysis method for their research, and then interpret the results. Prerequisite: GEOG 387 with a grade of B or better or consent of instructor.

GEOG 490 Senior Seminar (3-4)

The focus of the seminar may vary, but the class will expose students to the nature of the discipline of geography through readings of scholarly literature. The class will emphasize a student research project and will include classroom discussions during the course of the semester.

GEOG 495 Special Studies (1-4)

Special studies may be arranged to cover an area of interest not covered in the courses otherwise offered by the department. Prerequisites: completed special studies form and consent of the instructor.

GEOG 496 Selected Topics in Geography (2-5)

A single subject or set of related subjects not ordinarily covered by the geography department. Offerings will vary depending on visiting faculty, experimental courses, and educational needs.

GEOG 499A Geography Internship Program (2-5)

Students in the internship program will be given the opportunity to gain practical experience using geographical skills by working in a variety of county and city agencies in the Sonoma State University service area. Credit is given for three hours per unit work per week as arranged with the internship coordinator. Must have junior- or senior-level standing and a minimum GPA of 2.75, or permission from the Department Chair. GEOG 499A is offered in Fall; GEOG 499B is offered in Spring. May be repeated once for credit.

GEOG 499B Geography Internship Program (2-5)

Students in the internship program will be given the opportunity to gain practical experience using geographical skills by working in a variety of county and city agencies in the Sonoma State University service area. Credit is given for three hours per unit work per week as arranged with the internship coordinator. Must have junior- or senior-level standing and a minimum GPA of 2.75, or permission from the Department Chair. GEOG 499A is offered in Fall; GEOG 499B is offered in Spring. May be repeated once for credit.

GEOG 595 Graduate Special Studies (1-6)

Advanced research and writing. Students work under close supervision of faculty members. Subject matter variable. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: consent of instructor and completed special studies form.

Geology (GEOL)

GEOL 102 Our Dynamic Earth: Introduction to Geology (3)

Lecture, 2 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. A study of the minerals, rocks, and landforms that make up our earth in the context of the dynamic forces that form them. Emphasis on local geology, including earthquakes and other environmental aspects. Laboratory study of minerals, rocks, and maps. Required one-day weekend field trip. Fee required. Satisfies GE Area B1 (Physical Sciences) and GE laboratory requirements.

GEOL 105 The Age of Dinosaurs (3)

Lecture, 3 hours. The life and death of dinosaurs as evidenced by the fossil record will be studied to show how geology and biology combine in the discipline of paleontology. The evolution of dinosaurs over a 150-million- year time span sets the stage to investigate several interesting and ongoing controversies surrounding dinosaurs, including: why dinosaurs became extinct, the metabolism of dinosaurs, and the relationship between birds and dinosaurs. Satisfies GE Area B1 (Physical Sciences).

GEOL 107 Introduction to Earth Science (3)

This course studies the operation of the Earth system and its solar system home. It introduces the fundamental aspects of 4 major areas: astronomy; geology, including plate tectonics, and the planetary history of the Earth and its moon; physical oceanography; and weather and climate. There is no lab. The course is designed to prepare students for the earth science and astronomy parts of the SET examination. The prerequisite is that the student must be enrolled in the AMCS, LIBS, CALS, or ENSP credential program.

GEOL 110 Natural Disasters (3)

A course to examine the interaction between natural processes and human activities and the often costly and fatal results. Course emphasis will be on the principles underlying natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, floods, severe weather, coastal processes, asteroid impacts, fires, great dyings, and population growth. Many examples will be drawn from the northern California area. Course content may vary with instructor. Satisfies GE Area B3 (Physical Sciences, Specific Emphasis).

GEOL 120 Regional Field Geology (3)

Lecture, 1 hour. The heart of geology is in the field. The course is an examination of rocks, minerals, and landforms, and the processes that form them. This course includes a 10-day field trip taken during spring vacation, or multiple weekend field trips in the fall semester, where the natural world becomes our classroom. Prerequisite or co-requisite: any 100-level Geology course or instructor consent; students must be in good physical condition.

GEOL 205 Mineralogy (4)

Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Principles of crystal chemistry, crystallography, and properties and origins of common rock-forming minerals. Laboratory sessions emphasize hand specimen and petrographic mineral identification characterization. Prerequisites: completion of or concurrent enrollment in GEOL 303 and CHEM 115A.

GEOL 205A Mineralogy, Optics (2)

Supplementary course to be held concurrently with GEOL 205. For students who already have taken a mineralogy course but have not gained sufficient experience in optical mineralogy. Consists of the lecture and laboratory portion of GEOL 205 relevant to optical mineralogy. Prerequisite or co-requisites: GEOL 303 and CHEM 115A.

GEOL 301 Natural History of the Hawaiian Islands (3)

Lecture, 3 hours. The origin and evolution of the flora and fauna of the most isolated archipelago in the world, geologic history and context of volcanic oceanic islands, and conservation biology efforts to save the rare and endangered species of Hawaii. Satisfies GE Are B3 (Specific Emphasis in Natural Sciences). Prerequisite: BIOL 115 or 130A and 130B.