Department of Geography

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Paul Hudak, Chair

Graduate Faculty: Acevedo, Dong, Ferring, Hudak, Lyons, McGregor, Nagaoka, Oppong, Williams.

Students in the Department of Geography successfully prepare for active careers in diverse employment settings in business, government, research and teaching. The Master of Science degree with a major in applied geography allows students to develop their education and training in both physical and human geography, through a broad curriculum, research and teaching experience, and also through numerous internship opportunities with local corporations, water and land use agencies, and health care systems, as well as city, state and federal governments and agencies. The MS degree prepares graduates for mid-upper level entry positions as well as for pursuit of a doctoral degree in geography or an allied discipline. Formal interactions with the research and teaching faculties of environmental sciences and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine promote substantial crossover between disciplines for students in both programs. The master’s degree is also earned by many students that teach or plan to teach at the primary or secondary level. Inclusion of UNT’s archaeology curriculum in this department enables students to gain interdisciplinary training, with emphasis on geoarchaeology, zooarchaeology, spatial and quantitative analysis, and various techniques for dating or materials characterization.

Research

Faculty in the Department of Geography are engaged in research activities that cover a broad range of topics in physical and human geography, as well as archaeology. This diversity of research reflects the composition of our faculty. The department collaborates fully with the Institute of Applied Sciences, the Department of Mathematics, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and the Department of Physics, among others, in interdisciplinary projects.

Research areas include medical geography and health care delivery systems, groundwater monitoring and remediation, solid waste disposal, water resources management, locational conflicts, urban/economic geography, geographic information systems, remote sensing and digital image processing, meteorology, environmental modeling, ecosystems management, coastal and fluvial geomorphology, soils geomorphology, climate modeling, Quaternary geology and paleoenvironments, geoarchaeology, environmental archaeology, island biogeography, zooarchaeology, spatial modeling and spatial/environmental aspects of recreation, cultural resources management and natural hazard assessment. In addition to research activities in the southern mid-continent region, students have recently participated in our faculty’s research in South America, the Caribbean, New Zealand, Thailand, Portugal and the Republic of Georgia.

Recent support for research includes grants from the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Texas Natural Resources Information Service, the Texas Air Quality Control Board, the National Geographic Society and the Leakey Foundation.

The Center for Spatial Analysis and Mapping (CSAM) is housed in the Environmental Education, Science and Technology Building (EESAT). This center provides instructional and research support in the areas of geographic information systems (GIS), computer cartography, spatial analysis and environmental modeling. The facility serves undergraduate and graduate students majoring in geography and in environmental science. Beyond its immediate instructional and research mission, CSAM is envisioned as the facility to provide GIS support for institutional planning and facilities management at UNT. The department also collaborates with environmental sciences in the operation of the Center for Remote Sensing and Land Use Analysis for instruction and research.

The Center for Environmental Archaeology maintains fully equipped laboratories in archaeology, geoarchaeology and zooarchaeology. These facilities include instrumentation for analysis of sediments, soils, petrographic thin sections, lithic and ceramic artifacts. The zooarchaeology laboratory houses over 700 curated skeletons of recent vertebrates as well as large collections of Holocene and Pleistocene archaeological faunas. Extensive research includes current projects of Upper and Middle Paleolithic sites in Portugal and Ukraine, the 1.8 million year-old site of Dmanisi in the Republic of Georgia and numerous sites dealing with the human colonization of New Zealand.
Degree Program
The department offers a graduate program leading to the following degree:
- Master of Science with a major in applied geography.

Admission Requirements
Application for admission to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies is made through the graduate school. Concurrently, a letter of intent should be sent directly to the Department of Geography's graduate adviser. This letter should briefly summarize the applicant's background, specific interests in the field of geography and future career plans. Three letters of recommendation also are required.

Applicants normally should have the equivalent of an undergraduate major in geography from an accredited university with an overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.8 or a 3.0 GPA during the last 60 undergraduate semester hours. The undergraduate degree should include exposure to basic quantitative analysis techniques in geography also. Students whose undergraduate major is not geography may be required to take undergraduate leveling courses. Total leveling course requirements will not exceed 9 semester credit hours. In addition, the student's GRE score will be evaluated as part of the admission process. Contact the department or the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies for information concerning acceptable admission test scores.

Degree Programs
The Master of Science degree with a major in applied geography has a minimum requirement of 36 hours of academic credit, which includes either 6 hours for thesis preparation, or 6-9 hours of individual study and/or internships for non-thesis options. Students using the thesis option must defend their completed thesis, while those in the non-thesis option must pass a final examination. All students must take two research techniques courses: GEOG 5110, Research Design and Geographic Applications, and GEOG 5190, Advanced Quantitative Techniques. Also, students must complete 6 hours of work in a cognate field. For the remaining course work, selections may be made from any or all of five topical areas: geographic information systems (GIS) and techniques, water resources, urban environments, medical geography and archaeology. Individual student's degree plans and the composition of the student's committee are defined in the first term/semester of attendance in consultation with the student's major professor and the graduate adviser. Final written examinations are taken at the end of course work, including internships, for non-thesis students. An oral defense of the thesis is administered after the major professor and the thesis committee members have approved the written version of the thesis. As an option, students may elect to follow one of the specific degree tracks currently offered: environmental archaeology, urban environments management, water resources management or applied GIS.

Environmental Archaeology
Archaeology faculty in the geography department, in cooperation with the graduate program in anthropology, direct graduate students in pursuit of either the MS in geography or the MS in interdisciplinary studies. The focus of this program is to give students a strong foundation in selected areas of research expertise that will prepare them for entry into research positions or doctoral programs in archaeology. Two principal areas of training are geoarchaeology and zooarchaeology, which derive strength from the faculty and fine laboratory/collections resources in the Center for Environmental Archaeology. In addition to core requirements in geoarchaeology or zooarchaeology, students complete two areas of specialization selected from the following areas: GIS and remote sensing, spatial and quantitative analysis, instrumental techniques (e.g., SEM, EDX, PIXE, stable isotopes, petrography), or zoology and ecology.

Urban Environments Management
This degree track prepares students to assume a vital role within the structure of a city government, coordinating the activities of various city departments related to environmental legislation. In addition to the normal requirements, students select courses from content areas including urban environments, environmental science, city government structure and environmental law and policy. Each student completes an internship with a local city, using that experience as a focus for preparation of the thesis. This track has been developed in response to the increasing need for persons to coordinate different programs in city government, to liaison with governmental agencies, to interact with contracted environmental engineers and to bring a philosophy of sustainable environments to the planning process.

Water Resources Management
This track prepares geography students to assume active roles in addressing the critical issues of water supplies and water quality. Students follow a curriculum balanced among technical, scientific and political aspects of water resources management, preparing them to complete either a thesis or an internship. Courses are selected from the following topical areas: techniques, geography/geology, environmental science and environmental policy. Students completing this degree track gain positions with local and regional governments, federal and state regulatory agencies, engineering firms and regional water districts.
Applied Geographic Information Systems

This track prepares students to meet the growing demand for GIS professionals. But rather than a strictly technical preparation, students acquire the foundation in applied geography that qualifies them to play vital roles in planning, policy and implementation in chosen areas such as urban geography, economic/business development, environmental science and medical geography. Courses for this track are selected from the following groups: GIS technology, GIS applications, topics/cognate fields, real estate/marketing, public health administration, environmental science and applied economics.

Certification in GIS

A five-course sequence fulfills the requirements for certification in GIS. These courses are Introduction to GIS, Intermediate GIS, Advanced GIS, Computer Cartography and an applications-based elective from a list of geography and computer science courses. This certification may be acquired within the MS in geography, but is also open to graduate students in other programs, non-degree seeking students, or outside teachers or professionals who wish to add GIS capabilities to their present careers.

Financial Assistance

The Department of Geography extends some form of financial assistance to the majority of our graduate students. Our substantial enrollments in undergraduate introductory classes in geography, geology and archaeology support large numbers of teaching assistants and tutors. In addition, we offer students research assistantships and departmental scholarships. Many of these forms of assistance qualify students for an out-of-state tuition waiver, significantly reducing the student's education costs. The department also works closely with the office of student financial assistance and the international studies office to help students gain scholarships, student loans and other forms of assistance.

Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.

Course and Subject Guide

The "Course and Subject Guide," found in the Courses of Instruction section of this book, serves as a table of contents and provides quick access to subject areas and prefixes.

Department of History

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Adrian R. Lewis, Chair

The Department of History offers graduate programs leading to the following degrees:

- Master of Arts (requiring one foreign language); and
- Master of Science, both with a major in history; and
- Doctor of Philosophy with a major in history.

Concentrations are available at the master’s level in United States history and modern European history (since 1400).

Concentrations are available at the doctoral level in United States history and modern European history (since 1400).

Course offerings include a wide variety of classes on the history of the United States; ancient, medieval and modern Europe; Latin America; East Asia; the Middle East; Africa; and other topics. The department has special strengths in Texas history and military history.

The UNT library has a large collection of national newspapers, personal papers and other materials for the American colonial and early national periods, and for the Civil War and Reconstruction era. Also available are microfilm copies of presidential papers and those of other prominent Americans, such as Henry L. Stimson. A large microfilm collection of State Department materials includes diplomatic dispatches to 1906, the decimal file for all major countries, 1910 to 1929, and some of the decimal file beyond 1929. Library holdings include Texas newspapers, county tax rolls and U.S. census records. The library contains a large collection of Civil War soldiers’ records. In addition, researchers have easy access to regional archival depositories, among them the Southwest Branch of the National Archives in Fort Worth.

Other important resources in the collection include German Foreign Ministry documents; British and Foreign State Papers; British Parliamentary Debates; British Cabinet documents; proceedings of the