



University of Nevada, Reno

# Master of Science in Geography

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The Department of Geography offers a graduate program leading to the master of science (M.S.) degree in geography. Department faculty members promote the integration of physical, human, cultural, and resource geography. The department houses the office of the Nevada State Climatologist, the Geographic Alliance in Nevada, a geospatial and two physical geography laboratories, one for Palynology, the other for Dendrochronology. The department has facilities for computer mapping and Geographic Information Systems. Students should refer to the Graduate School section of the Catalog and contact the department for additional information.

Applications for acceptance into the Department of Geography's graduate programs are sent to the [Graduate School](#), and must include: (a) a graduate admission application form, including fees; (b) an official copy of GRE scores; (c) official college transcripts; (d) a statement of purpose and goals; and (e) three sealed recommendation letters. Applications received in full by February 1 will be considered for the fall semester.

Candidates for the master of science degree in geography must satisfy the general requirements of the Graduate School. In addition, degree candidates must pass both written and oral comprehensive examinations. Two degree plans are available: Plan A (31 credits) includes a thesis on original research; Plan B (36 credits) replaces the thesis with a professional paper. The student's advisor is a full-time Geography Department faculty member and serves as the committee chair.

## Plan A (Thesis) — 31 credits\*\*\*

Plan A includes a research thesis. Minimum requirements are:

- A. Required Courses (16 credits)
  - 1. **GEOG 700** - History and Nature of Geography\* (3 credits)
  - 2. **GEOG 795R** - Comprehensive Examination (1 credit)
  - 3. **GEOG 797** - Thesis (6 credits)
  - 4. Graduate methods courses\*\* (6 credits)
- B. Elective Courses (15 credits)  
See advisor for list of courses.

## Plan B (Non-Thesis) — 36 credits\*\*\*

Plan B does not include a research thesis. Minimum requirements are:

- A. Required Courses (12 credits)
  - 1. **GEOG 700** - History and Nature of Geography\* (3 credits)
  - 2. **GEOG 795R** - Comprehensive Examination (1 credit)
  - 3. **GEOG 796** - Professional Paper (2 credits)
  - 4. Graduate methods courses\*\* (6 credits)
- B. Elective Courses (24 credits)  
See advisor for list of courses.

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\* To be taken in the first semester of residence at the university.

\*\* To be selected among a list of geography and non-geography classes. This list is updated constantly and available from the department.

\*\*\* At least 18 credits (including the required 6) need to be at the 700-level.