

GEOLOGY (GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES) - BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

A Suggested Plan of Study for Students

This roadmap assumes student placement in MATH 1250G Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus and ENGL 1110G Composition I. The contents and order of this roadmap may vary depending on initial student placement in mathematics and English. It is only a suggested plan of study for students and is not intended as a contract. Course availability may vary from fall to spring semester and may be subject to modification or change.

First Year

Semester 1	Credits
Area I: Communications - Level 1 Course	4
ENGL 1110G Composition I (Recommended) ¹ or ENGL 1110H or Composition I Honors	
Area II: Mathematics Course ¹	3-4
MATH 1250G Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus (Recommended) ²	
GEOL 1110G Physical Geology or HNRS 2116G or Earth, Time and Life	4
Area IV: Social and Behavioral Science Course ¹	3
Credits	14-15

Semester 2

CHEM 1215G General Chemistry I Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors ²	4
MATH 1430G Applications of Calculus I ² or MATH 1511G or Calculus and Analytic Geometry I or MATH 1511H or Calculus and Analytic Geometry I Honors	3-4
Area I: Communications - Oral Communication Course	3
COMM 1115G Introduction to Communication or HNRS 2175G (Recommended) or Introduction to Communication Honors	
Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts Course ¹	3
Elective Course ³	1
Credits	14-15

Second Year

Semester 1	Credits
GEOL 1150 Introduction to Rocks and Minerals	3
GEOL 305V Fossils and the Evolution of Life	3
CHEM 1225G General Chemistry II Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors ²	4
MATH 1440 Applications of Calculus II ² or MATH 1521G or Calculus and Analytic Geometry II or MATH 1521H or Calculus and Analytic Geometry II Honors	3-4
Area I: Communications - Level 2 Course	3
ENGL 2210G Professional and Technical Communication or ENGL 2210H (Recommended) ¹ or Professional and Technical Communication	
Credits	16-17

Semester 2

GEOL 312 Mineralogy and Optics (Spring Only) ²	3
GEOL 420 Stratigraphy and Sedimentology	3
Choose one from the following:	3-4

GEOG 381 Cartography and GIS (Recommended to meet the 3-4 credit non-departmental requirement)	3
CSCI 1210 Java Programming	
CSCI 1210 Java Programming	
CSCI 1220 Computer Programming Fundamentals: Python	
CSCI 1235 R Programming I	
C E 151 Introduction to Civil Engineering	
MATH 1350G Introduction to Statistics	
MATH 2350G Statistical Methods	
Area V: Humanities Course ¹	3
Elective Course ³	2

Credits 14-15

Third Year

Semester 1

GEOL 470 Structural Geology ²	3
GEOL 360 General Geochemistry	3
Choose one sequence from the following:	4
PHYS 1230G Algebra-Based Physics I & PHYS 1230L and Algebra-Based Physics I Lab ²	
PHYS 1310G Calculus-Based Physics I & PHYS 1310L and Calculus-Based Physics I Lab ²	
Geology Upper-Division Elective Course (refer to degree requirements list)	3
Elective course	2

Credits 15

Semester 2

GEOL 399 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology	3
Choose one sequence from the following:	4
PHYS 1240G Algebra-Based Physics II & PHYS 1240L and Algebra-Based Physics II Lab ²	
PHYS 1320G Calculus-Based Physics II & PHYS 1320L and Calculus-Based Physics II Lab ²	
Geology Upper-Division Elective Course (refer to degree requirements list)	3
VWW: Viewing a Wider World Course ⁴	3
Elective course	2

Credits 15

Fourth Year

Summer

GEOL 495 Geology Field Camp ⁵	4
Credits	4

Semester 1

VWW: Viewing a Wider World Course ⁴	3
Geology Upper-Division Elective Course (refer to degree requirements list)	3
Geology Upper-Division Elective Course (refer to degree requirements list)	3
Elective Course	2
First Course in Second Language Series	4

Credits 15

Semester 2

GEOL 490 Field Geology ^{1,5}	3
GEOL 491 Tectonic Evolution of North America ¹	3
GEOL 449 The Geological Profession ¹	1
Second Course in Second Language Series	4

Elective course ³	2
Credits	13
Total Credits	120-124

¹ See the General Education (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/general-education-viewing-wider-world/>) section of the catalog for a full list of courses.

² These courses may have prerequisites and/or co-requisites, and it is the students responsibility for checking and fulfilling all those requirements.

³ Students whose Financial Aid requires enrollment in at least 15 credits each semester, may need to take additional elective credit than what is listed. Students should discuss their electives with their advisor.
*Elective credit may vary based on Math course selection, second language requirements, prerequisites, dual credit, AP credit, double majors, and/or minor coursework. The amount indicated in the requirements list is the amount needed to bring the total to 120 credits and may appear in variable form based on the degree. However students may end up needing to complete more or less on a case-by-case basis.

⁴ See the Viewing a Wider World (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/general-education-viewing-wider-world/#viewingawiderworldtext>) section of the catalog for a full list of courses.

⁵ GEOL 495 Geology Field Camp, is only taught in the summer of odd-numbered years. Students should take GEOL 490 Field Geology, during the spring semester before taking GEOL 495. GEOL 495 Geology Field Camp should be taken the summer after the third or fourth year. In cases where it is impossible to fit this class into a schedule, students may take a field camp at another university and transfer the credits. It is the student's responsibility to have the department head verify that the field camp is acceptable before taking the course.