

The 7-Part Plan to a Geography Master's Degree at CSULB (2009-10 Catalogue rights)

Name _____ Date Degree Expected _____ Thesis Advisor _____
 ID# _____ Pre-Thesis Advisor: rodrigue@csulb.edu (S/10) Advising Date _____
 Your preferred current e-mail _____ Telephone _____

The Geography M.A. program consists of 30 semester units divided among core requirements, topical seminars, a thesis, and electives. At least 22 units must be at the 500 or 600 level. Those graduate students entering from another discipline should take foundational courses before attempting the courses in the formal program itself.

CSULB Unit Value	CSULB Grade	Master's Degree Requirements	Need to Take	Advising Comments/ Term Taken	Transfer or Substitute Course
Courses at the 500 or 600 level must comprise at least 60% of your coursework (18 out of 30 units). Our program normally provides 22 such units).					
		<p>Part 1: Deficiencies (≤18 units), if needed by non-geography bachelor's degree holders</p> <p>If you are coming in from another discipline, take all of the courses identified by the Graduate Advisor as necessary to build a minimum foundation in geography. Depending on your original discipline, this may include up to 18 units distributed among physical/environmental geography, human geography, and GIScience. These should be substantially completed before starting the core courses and seminars.</p>			
4 3 3	_____ _____ _____	<p>Part 2: Core Courses (10 units)</p> <p>Take all of the following three categories of course (10 units):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADVANCED Methods Course: GEOG 400, 474, 502, 575, 584, 586, 587A, 587B, OR 588, ultimately approved by Thesis Chair GEOG 596 Geographic Thought and Literature GEOG 696 Seminar in Geographical Research Methods 			
3 3 3 3 3	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____	<p>Part 3: Topical Seminars (6 units)</p> <p>Take 2 seminars (2 different seminars or the same seminar twice):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEOG 640 Seminar in Physical Geography GEOG 650 Seminar in Human Geography GEOG 666 Seminar in Urban Geography GEOG 680 Seminar in Geospatial Science With written approval from the Graduate Advisor, a graduate seminar in another department may be substituted for one of these two required seminars 			
1-6	_____	<p>Part 4: Thesis (6 units)</p> <p>Take 6 units of thesis (in any combination of 1-6 units) under the supervision of your thesis committee chair; select the rest of the committee with him or her. These units may not be taken until you are advanced to candidacy (or the semester you are advanced), which requires the approval of your committee and a public presentation and defense of your proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEOG 698 Thesis 			

CSULB Unit Value	CSULB Grade	Master's Degree Requirements (continued)			Need to Take	Advising Comments/ Term Taken	Transfer or Substitute Course
Balance of the program beyond the required 500/600 level courses: Electives and GS 700							
		Part 5: Electives at the 400, 500, or 600 level Take 8 units of elective courses selected with the Graduate Advisor to bring your total units up to a minimum of 30 units. These may include up to 6 units of courses in another department as long as that department approves the courses selected as part of their own graduate program. A maximum of 3 units can be counted if such a seminar was approved under Step 2.					
		<u>Physical/Environmental</u> GEOG 540 GEOG 442 GEOG 543 GEOG 444 GEOG 545 GEOG 446 GEOG 447 GEOG 455 GEOG 558	<u>Human/Urban</u> GEOG 452 GEOG 460 GEOG 462 GEOG 565 GEOG 466 GEOG 567 GEOG 568 GEOG 470	<u>GIScience/Techniques</u> GEOG 400 GEOG 502 GEOG 473 GEOG 474 GEOG 575 GEOG 482 GEOG 584 GEOG 585 GEOG 587A GEOG 587B GEOG 588			
		With approval of the Graduate Advisor, up to 6 units of 400, 500, or 600 level coursework from another department or campus may be used to satisfy elective credit or, alternatively, 3 units may be used to satisfy the topical seminar requirement and 3 units the elective credit					
		Elective credit may also be satisfied through use of internship, independent studies, and independent research units, up to a maximum of 3 units, with the approval of the Graduate Advisor					
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEOG 492 Internship • GEOG 494 Special Topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEOG 497 Directed Std • GEOG 697 Directed Rsr 				
		Part 6: Continuous Enrollment after Coursework It is possible that completion of your thesis may take longer than the duration of your thesis units. You are required to maintain continuous enrollment by signing up for 1 unit of GS 700 each semester through UCES until degree completion.					
		Part 7: Thesis Approval After completion of your thesis, secure the approval of your 3 person committee, which must be chaired by a tenured or tenure-track member of the Geography faculty and which must include at least one other such Geography faculty member. The third member may be from another department or campus, a lecturer faculty member in our own department, or a non-academic professional with relevant expertise. Then, submit the approved thesis to the Library Thesis and Dissertation Office (to learn more, please visit http://www.csulb.edu/library/guide/serv/) and ensure the office's acceptance					

Comments/Notes: