

EARTH SCIENCE

Earth Science

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Department of Geography

7 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2617

Website: [www.http://sbs.mnsu.edu/geography](http://sbs.mnsu.edu/geography)

<http://cset.mnsu.edu/chemgeol/programs/geol>

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Earth Science studies the Earth's interrelated physical systems of atmosphere, biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and outer space. Fundamental to Earth Science are the impacts of people and the interactions of chemical, physical, and biological processes at all spatial scales ranging from submicroscopic to planetary, and over time scales from the immediate to billions of years. Thus, courses in Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Geology, and Physics are required to fulfill degree requirements. Majors may choose to earn the BA or BS in the broadly based program or a more focused Geology "option" (BS only) is available. For secondary teacher licensure see the "Science Teaching" program and major. An Earth Science minor is available.

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:

- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
 - a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").
- Contact the department for application procedures.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. A GPA of 2.0 or higher in a major or minor is required for graduation.

Refer to the College regarding required advising for students on academic probation.

P/N Grading Policy. All courses in earth science must be taken for a letter grade.

EARTH SCIENCE BA

Major Common Core

AST	101	Introduction to Astronomy (3)
AST	102	Introduction to the Planets (3)
BIOL	100	Our Natural World (4)
CHEM	201	General Chemistry I (5)
GEOG	101	Introductory Physical Geography (3)
GEOG	217	Weather (3)
GEOG	315	Geomorphology (3)
GEOG	410	Climatic Environments (3)
GEOL	121	Physical Geology (4)
GEOL	122	Earth History (4)
GEOL	201	Elements of Mineralogy (4)
PHYS	211	Principles of Physics I (4)

Major Restricted Electives (Choose 6 credits)

AST	125	Observational Astronomy (3)
BIOL	432	Lake Ecology (4)
GEOG	370	Cartographic Techniques (4)
GEOG	373	Introduction to Geography Information Systems (4)
GEOG	412	Advanced Weather (4)
GEOG	420	Conservation of Natural Resources (3)
GEOG	440	Field Studies (1-4)
GEOG	480	Seminar (1-4)
GEOL	320	Sedimentology and Stratigraphy (4)
GEOL	330	Structural Geology (4)

GEOL	350	Environmental Geology (4)
GEOL	370	Geotectonics (2)
GEOL	450	Hydrogeology (3)

Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY: Language (8 credits)

Minor Required: None.

EARTH SCIENCE BS

Major Common Core

AST	101	Introduction to Astronomy (3)
AST	102	Introduction to the Planets (3)
BIOL	100	Our Natural World (4)
CHEM	201	General Chemistry I (5)
GEOG	101	Introductory Physical Geography (3)
GEOG	217	Weather (3)
GEOG	315	Geomorphology (3)
GEOG	410	Climatic Environments (3)
GEOL	121	Physical Geology (4)
GEOL	122	Earth History (4)
GEOL	201	Elements of Mineralogy (4)
PHYS	211	Principles of Physics I (4)

Major Restricted Electives (Choose 6 credits)

AST	125	Observational Astronomy (3)
BIOL	432	Lake Ecology (4)
GEOG	370	Cartographic Techniques (4)
GEOG	373	Introduction to Geography Information Systems (4)
GEOG	412	Advanced Weather (4)
GEOG	420	Conservation of Natural Resources (3)
GEOG	440	Field Studies (1-4)
GEOL	320	Sedimentology and Stratigraphy (4)
GEOL	330	Structural Geology (4)
GEOL	350	Environmental Geology (4)
GEOL	370	Geotectonics (2)
GEOL	450	Hydrogeology (3)

Minor Required: None.

EARTH SCIENCE

EARTH SCIENCE (BS) GEOLOGY OPTION

Geology is the study of the Earth, its materials, and its processes. It concerns itself with solving basic scientific problems and utilizing knowledge of the Earth for the benefit of mankind. Its concerns include but are not limited to soil preservation, water production and quality, hazards mitigation, resource exploration and production, engineering of structures large and small, climate change, and the history of life on Earth and the search for life on other planets.

Required General Education (13 credits)

CHEM 201	General Chemistry I (5)
GEOL 121	Physical Geology (4)
GEOL 122	Earth History (4)
GEOL 201	Elements of Mineralogy (4)
GEOL 302	Petrology (4)
GEOL 320	Sedimentology and Stratigraphy (4)
GEOL 330	Structural Geology (4)
MATH 121	Calculus I (4)
PHYS 211	Principles of Physics I (4)

Major Restricted Electives (Choose 6-8 credits)

GEOG 315	Geomorphology (3)
GEOG 373	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (4)
GEOG 420	Conservation of Natural Resources (3)
GEOG 471	Digital Field Mapping with GPS (4)
GEOG 474	Introduction to Remote Sensing (4)

(Choose 4-10 credits)

GEOG 440	Geology Field Camp (4-8)
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GEOG 497	Internship (1-10)
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GEOL 499	Individual Study (1-5)
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(Choose 7-8 credits)

GEOL 350	Environmental Geology (4)
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GEOL 401	Field Studies (1-3)
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GEOL 430	Petroleum and Ore Deposit Geology (3)
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GEOL 450	Hydrogeology (3)
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Other Graduation Requirements

Successful completion of Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU) can be substituted for GEOL 499 as the capstone experience subject to Department approval.

Minor Required: None.

EARTH SCIENCE BS TEACHING (5-12)

Requirements for the Earth Science, Teaching major can be found in the SCIENCE TEACHING section of this bulletin.

EARTH SCIENCE MINOR

Required General Education for Minor (17 credits)

AST 101	Introduction to Astronomy (3)
BIOL 100	Our Natural World (4)
CHEM 100	Chemistry in Society (4)
GEOG 101	Introductory to Physical Geography (3)
PHYS 100	Cultural Physics (3)

Required for Minor (Core, 14 credits)

GEOL 121	Physical Geology (4)
GEOL 122	Earth History (4)
GEOG 217	Weather (3)
GEOG 315	Geomorphology (3)

Required Electives for Minor (3 credits)

(Choose one from the following)

AST 102	Introduction to the Planets (3)
GEOG 410	Climatic Environments (3)
GEOG 420	Conservation of Natural Resources (3)