
GEOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GEOLOGY

Major Options

- Environmental Geology
- Petroleum Geology
- Professional Geology

The science of geology seeks to develop an understanding of the Earth's physical and chemical processes, environmental systems, and natural resources. Geologists work in a variety of areas, including discovering new sources of energy, and economically important minerals. Human impacts on the environment, volcanoes, earthquakes, landforms, surface and subsurface water, earth history, and fossils are all subjects for study.

Geologists may work as members of an interdisciplinary team in planning construction projects, landfills, mine reclamation, and other environmentally-oriented projects. Employment opportunities for geologists exist in private industry and both state and federal government agencies.

Geology students may follow programs designed to prepare them for entry into graduate school, employment in the geotechnical field, or secondary school earth science teaching. Excellent employment opportunities are available in the environmental geotechnical field, where geologists work with other scientists and engineers to solve complex environmental issues.

The geology major will study for a bachelor of science degree. This degree requires a minimum of 120 semester hours with a minimum of 43 semester hours in geology (professional option), or a minimum of 36 semester hours in geology (environmental option). Additional departmental courses and related courses may be specified for geology majors following particular emphasis programs. Strongly recommended are calculus and/or statistics.

The geology program is fully interdisciplinary allowing the student and their advisor to "build" an academic program through selection of appropriate electives to suit the special needs and interests of the student.