Frequently Asked Questions

(Last updated: 09/12/2013)

Advising

1. Do I need to make an appointment for advising?
   No. Hours for advising are posted every semester. They can be found on our Hours and Contact page on the Department of Geographical Sciences website and on the front door of the advising office- 2181M LeFrak Hall.
   http://geog.umd.edu/content/hours-and-contact

2. “I really want/need to get into a class, but the class is full and I am currently on the wait-list. Can you put me in?”
   Although we wish that all our classes had the capacity to take in as many students as possible, the reality is that classes fill up fast. While you may get off the wait-list, we do not have the authorization to put you into that class without special permission. To avoid finding yourself in this situation, we recommend that you register for classes ASAP!

3. I want to register for an internship/honors class/independent study. How do I go about that?
   Great! We are excited to see that you are taking your education to the next level. The information, requirements, and forms for each of these programs are listed below. Please fill them out before you come into our advising office. The deadline for the Fall 2013 semester is September 16th.
   ➢ Internship
     - http://www.geog.umd.edu/content/internship-program
   ➢ Honors
     - http://www.geog.umd.edu/content/honors-geography
   ➢ Independent Study
     - http://www.geog.umd.edu/content/independent-studies

Curriculum

1. I am interested in Geography what are my options?
   Within the Geography concentration are two tracks:
   ➢ Development and Sustainability
   ➢ Environment Systems and Natural Resources
     o http://geog.umd.edu/content/geography
2. **I am interested in GIS what are my options?**
   If you are interested in GIS you have one concentration option:
   - **GIS, Cartography and Remote Sensing Concentration**

3. **I am interested in minoring in GIS. What are the requirements?**
   We love to take new applicants for our GIS minors. The minor is open to both geographical science majors and non-geographical science majors. Each has a different set of course requirements in order to complete the minor. If you are interested, please click on the link below for more information and to download the application.
   - **Minor in GIS**

4. **If I am transferring from a community college (i.e. MCC, PGCC, HCC, ACC, CSM) will my specialized GIS, GEOG and ENSP courses count towards my major requirements?**
   Unfortunately no, while most community colleges are offering more and more specialized courses in these geographical tracks, we cannot count those credits towards your major requirements. The UMD Department of Geographical Sciences offers its specialized courses at the 300-400 level, which means that we want our students to take these courses at the UMD due to the specialized curriculum and set of skills we want our students to graduate with.

   For questions about which credits can transfer, please visit the Transfer Credit Center’s page: [http://www.tce.umd.edu/](http://www.tce.umd.edu/)

**Graduation**

1. **When should I complete my student audit to be applicable for graduation?**
   To consider yourself eligible for graduation, your Senior Audit must be submitted before you apply for graduation. Students graduating in Fall 2013 should have their senior audits submitted before September 12, 2013.

   Please visit the graduate and commencement page for further instructions: [http://www.commencement.umd.edu/](http://www.commencement.umd.edu/)