

Sample Education Plan Associate in Arts (AA) Area of Focus: Geography



Please note that the AA degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website: www.mchenry.edu/transfer.

AA Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Geography

Students are encouraged to complete an AA degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a bachelor's degree environmental science program.

Please refer to MCC's AA degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
Communications		Diversity and Multicultural Studies	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3		
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
Humanities and Fine Arts		Electives (approximately 22 credits, will depend on credit value of your course selections)	
IAI Fine Arts	3	Recommended Courses (requirements vary among four-year schools and between BA and BS programs; select with your advisor):	
IAI Humanities	3	GEG 123 Energy Resources	3
IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	GEG 202 Geography of Developed World	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences		GEG 203 Geography of Developing World	3
PSY 151 Introduction to Psychology	3	GEG 220 Global Environment	3-4
HIS 170 or HIS 172 US History I or II	3	^ECO 252 Macroeconomics	3
PLT 151 US Government	3	Foreign Language	0-16
Physical and Life Sciences		Total Credits Required for AA Degree	60
(7 credits, 1 lab course)		Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60-64 transfer credits.	
GEG 107 Intro to Physical Geography	4		
^IAI Life Science	3-4		
Mathematics			
^IAI Mathematics (MAT 171 or 175 recommended)	3-5		
^Course has prerequisite(s)—Please reference the current academic catalog for prerequisites.			

NOTE:

- **Mathematics and science course selection will depend on your transfer school. Requirements vary among four-year schools.**
- An entire sequence should be taken at the same school (e.g. PHY 280 & 281). Content may vary between institutions; completing sequence at a single institution is the best way to assure that neither credit nor content is lost in transfer.
- Your transfer school may require at least 1 year of foreign language. High school foreign language may or may not count. It is always recommended that the foreign language requirement be completed prior to transfer.
- The AA degree includes the entire IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC.

For more information:
advising@mchenry.edu or (815) 479-7565
www.mchenry.edu/advising



Transfer Notes

Geography majors study how space on the earth's surface is placed and used. Students who concentrate on physical geography focus on the land itself, studying such topics as climate, soil, and water. Cultural, or human, geography explores the relationship between people and the land. Graduates of a bachelor's degree in geography find employment opportunities in both the public and private sectors: environmental analysis, assessment, and management, map making and remote sensing, regional analysis, economic and urban spatial analysis, and teaching. Students go on to graduate study in geography, law, management, urban and regional planning, education, and other biophysical and social sciences.

Admission and specific course requirements vary among four-year institutions. Students may have a choice of earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, depending on the school they attend and their area of focus.

Some schools require additional math and science coursework for the BS degree. Competency through the second, third, or fourth semester of a single foreign language is required for the BA degree in some schools and for all majors in the College of Arts and Sciences at other schools. Ask about the language requirement of the schools you are considering, and complete the required foreign language courses before transfer. In some cases, two years of foreign language study in high school will substitute for two semesters in college.

A geography major may pursue a program leading to state licensure as a high school teacher. Licensure requirements vary by state. Almost all states require that applicants to teacher education programs be tested for competency in basic skills and undergo a criminal background check.

Transfer Schools

Many colleges and universities have the geography major. Following is a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer geography programs:

- Augustana College
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Illinois State University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwestern University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- Western Illinois University

Transfer Resources

www.itransfer.org—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

www.mchenry.edu/transfer—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.