

GEOGRAPHY MASTER'S

THE
GRADUATE
COLLEGE



“The personal commitment of the geography faculty to individual students promotes self-growth in both academic and real-world experience. The master’s programs’ holistic approach offers students an international perspective gained through a variety of course work suited to the student’s individual research interest.”

— **Kate Yow** GEOGRAPHY MASTER'S STUDENT

Texas State University is widely known for its outstanding geography programs, and because of this stellar reputation, Texas State’s Department of Geography is the largest in the United States.

Outstanding professors are one of the reasons behind the department’s success. Over the years, Texas State’s faculty has received more of the National Council for Geographic Education’s Distinguished Teaching Awards than any other university faculty in the nation.

Texas State offers both master’s and doctoral programs in geography. The MAGEo is designed to give geographers the skills and knowledge to solve real-world problems with geographic dimensions. The Master of Science is designed to give students exposure to geographic theory and research at the pre-doctoral level.

Course Work

Master of Applied Geography (MAGeo)

Students complete 33 semester hours, including a core of 12 semester hours of geography courses and six hours of graduate course electives in any discipline(s), including geography. Students take the remaining 15 semester hours in one of four major courses of study:

- **Resource and Environmental Studies** — requires Environmental Management and Geographic Elements of Environmental Law, and at least six hours of select geography elective courses
- **Geographic Information Science** — requires 12 hours chosen from Web Mapping, Geographic Applications of Remote Sensing, and Geographic Information Systems I and II
- **Geographic Education** — requires Practicum in Geographic Education and at least nine hours of select geography electives
- **General Geography** — permits 12 to 15 hours of geography electives

Master of Science (M.S.)

The 30-hour curriculum includes three core courses (Multivariate Quantitative Methods, Geographical Analysis, and Advanced Geographic Research Design), six hours of master's thesis course work, and 15 hours of additional course work. Most of the course work options for completion of the 15 hours are doctoral courses. By taking these courses and interacting with doctoral students and core doctoral faculty, M.S. students are introduced to high-level academic and professional research in geography.

Career Options

MAGeo graduates pursue careers in such fields as environmental management, GIS, cartography, land use planning, location analysis, land management, transportation systems planning, applied physical geography, geographic aspects of environmental law, and spatial modeling.

Graduates of the M.S. program may qualify for admission into doctoral programs in geography at Texas State or other universities. Those who do not wish to seek doctorates may be qualified for research-oriented positions with public agencies and private firms and to teach in community colleges.

Admission Policy

Students seeking admission to the MAGeo program must have at least a 3.2 GPA for the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work leading to the bachelor's degree.

Students seeking admission to the M.S. program must have at least a 3.4 GPA for the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work leading to the bachelor's degree.

Each international student must have a TOEFL score of at least 78 (iBT).

Each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College:

- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- one official transcript from each college or university attended, including community colleges
- official Graduate Record Exam (GRE). See www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/geo.html for details about GRE requirement.
- statement of purpose that identifies the major and possible areas of research
- two letters of recommendation (sent directly from the letters' authors)
- résumé

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply for access to an online application, where to submit application documents and additional details. Applications are due May 1 for the fall semester and October 15 for the spring semester. Admission decisions are made twice per year.

Financial Assistance

The Department of Geography offers a limited number of graduate assistantships. Please contact the department's graduate program coordinator for details.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on *Financing Your Graduate Education*. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

Contact

Graduate Program Coordinator
Department of Geography
Texas State University
601 University Drive
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684
Phone: 512.245.2618 | Fax: 512.245.8353
E-mail: am13@txstate.edu