



# Geology Major

Total Major hours: 44 (BA), 52 (BS)  
Suggested hours per semester: 14-16

## Major Academic Plan (MAP) for Catalog Year 2025-2026

The catalog is the final authority on CATC and major requirements; this is intended as a tool for planning purposes. Student course sequencing may vary depending on course offerings and other variables.

<p><b>Fall Semester 1</b></p> <p>GEOL 212 Dynamic Earth and Environment<sup>1</sup>  MATH 135 Calculus for Business/ Social Science<sup>1,4*</sup> or MATH 235 Calculus I<sup>1,4*</sup> or PHYS 221 General Physics I<sup>1,4,F</sup> or PHYS 231 Introductory Physics I<sup>1,4,F</sup></p> <p>CORE 101: First Year Seminar  CORE 131: H. H. Flourishing (1)  First-Year CATC options-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ COMM 101: Oral Comm (2)</li> <li>▪ ENGW 103: First-Year Writing</li> <li>▪ Language Core Competency or Thematic Core Course Language Core Competency</li> </ul>	<p><b>Spring Semester 1</b></p> <p>GEOL 212 Dynamic Earth and Environment<sup>1</sup>, if not complete  GEOL 321 Earth History and Stratigraphy<sup>1#*</sup>  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)</p> <p>First-Year CATC option  BITH 211/ARCH 211: Old Testament</p>	<p><b>Summer 1</b></p> <p>Consider study, internship, or research options –Wheaton In summer program, WIN (HoneyRock), Wheaton in the Black Hills, non-major internship, summer research or other options. (See faculty for advising.)</p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 2</b></p> <p>CHEM 231 General Chemistry I<sup>F</sup>  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)  MATH 135<sup>1,4*</sup> or MATH 235<sup>1,4*</sup> or PHYS 221<sup>1,4,F</sup> or PHYS 231<sup>1,4,F</sup>, if not complete</p> <p>Thematic Core or Core Competency Courses (4-8)  BITH 213/ARCH 213: New Testament</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 2</b></p> <p>GEOL 232 Environmental Geochemistry<sup>#*</sup>  GEOL 343 Fundamentals of Mineral Science (2)<sup>#*</sup>  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)</p> <p>Thematic Core Course  BITH 315: Christian Thought*</p>	<p><b>Summer 2</b></p> <p>Consider study, internship, or research options –Wheaton In summer program, WIN (HoneyRock), Wheaton in the Black Hills, non-major internship, summer research or other options. (See faculty for advising.)</p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 3</b></p> <p>GEOL 336 Process Geomorphology<sup>#*</sup>  GEOL 344 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology<sup>#*</sup>  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)  MATH 263 Introduction to Statistics<sup>1,3</sup> or ECON 321 Statistics<sup>3</sup> or GEOL 341 Environmental Statistics and Modeling<sup>1,3</sup></p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 3</b></p> <p>GEOL 443 Structural Geology<sup>#*</sup>  GEOL 321 Earth History and Stratigraphy<sup>1#*</sup>, if not complete  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)</p> <p>Thematic Core Course  Advanced Integrative Seminar*</p>	<p><b>Summer 3</b></p> <p>GEOL 345 Sedimentary Geology (2)<sup>2,6#*</sup>  GEOL 412 Field Geology (6)<sup>2,6#*</sup></p>
<p><b>Fall Semester 4</b></p> <p>GEOL 494 Senior Capstone (2)*  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)  MATH 135<sup>1,4*</sup> or 235<sup>1,4*</sup> or PHYS 221<sup>1,4F</sup> or PHYS 231<sup>1,4F</sup> or CHEM 231<sup>F</sup>, if not complete  Advanced Integrative Seminar*, if not complete  Complete CATC Coursework</p>	<p><b>Spring Semester 4</b></p> <p>GEOL 232 Environmental Geochemistry<sup>#*</sup>, if not complete  Major Electives<sup>4,5</sup> (1-4)</p> <p>Complete CATC Coursework</p>	<p><b>Summer 4</b></p>

## Notes or Special Guidance for Majors:

\*Course has prerequisite

<sup>F</sup> Fall only course

<sup>S</sup> Spring only course

<sup>#</sup>Offered every other year

<sup>1</sup> Courses that meet the CATC Thematic Core tags: GEOL 212 (SP), GEOL 321 (SIP), GEOL 341 (AAQR), PHYS 221 (SP), PHYS 231 (SP), MATH 135 (AAQR), MATH 235 (AAQR) or MATH 263 (AAQR). A maximum of 3 Thematic Core tags can count toward the major and CATC requirements.

<sup>2</sup> GEOL 343<sup>#,\*</sup>, GEOL 344<sup>#,\*</sup> and GEOL 443<sup>#,\*</sup> must be taken in sequence prior to attending summer Field Camp<sup>6</sup> (GEOL 345<sup>#,\*</sup>, GEOL 412<sup>#,\*</sup>).

<sup>3</sup> Required for Bachelor of Arts only.

<sup>4</sup> Required for Bachelor of Science only.

<sup>5</sup> B.S. Geology students must choose a 4 hour elective credit in Geology. Choose from:

GEOL 332 Studies in Regional Geology\* (1-2, repeatable course)

GEOL 341 Environmental Statistics and Modeling (AAQR)

GEOL 355 Introduction to Soil Science<sup>#</sup> (2)

GEOL 371 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GEOL 372 GIS Practicum (2)

GEOL 385 Topics in Earth Science (Climate Change, Petroleum Geology)\* (2-4)

GEOL 437 Hydrogeology<sup>#,\*</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Summer only course at the Wheaton Field Station.