

# Master's degree in Geography

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**with 30 ECTS credits Master's thesis**

CP	7. Semester (HS)	8. Semester (FS)	9. Semester (HS)	CP	
1	GEO 410 Geography.Matters.	Core elective modules	GEO 511 Master's thesis	1	
2			Master's thesis may also be written over two semesters (max. 12 months).		2
3					3
4	4 CP				4
5	Core elective modules			5	
6	Some core elective modules span over two semesters.			6	
7				7	
8				8	
9				9	
10				10	
11				11	
12		ca. 12 CP		12	
13		Elective modules		13	
14				14	
15				15	
16				16	
17				17	
18				18	
19				19	
20				20	
21				21	
22	ca. 18 CP			22	
23	Elective modules			23	
24				24	
25				25	
26				26	
27				27	
28		ca. 16 CP		28	
29				29	
30	ca. 8 CP		30 CP	30	
31			GEO 512 Master's exam	31	
32			2 CP	32	

**Structure**  
 To obtain a Master's degree with a 30 ECTS credits Master thesis, at least 30 ECTS credits have to be completed with core elective modules offered by the Department of Geography.

**Emphasis**  
 To obtain a Master's degree with a designated emphasis within the Master of Geography, a minimum of 18 ECTS credits in core elective modules and the Master's thesis have to be completed within the field of the emphasis.

The following emphases are possible:

- Physical Geography \*
- Human Geography
- Remote Sensing
- Geographic Information Science and Systems

\* In Physical Geography the 18 ECTS credits in core elective modules need to be completed out of at least two of the four units of Physical Geography (e.g. two modules out of 3G and one out of 2B, H2K or GCH or one module each out of three different units).

**Degree in General Geography**  
 In addition to the emphases, it is possible to obtain a general Master's degree. For the degree in General Geography a minimum of 6 ECTS credits in core elective modules have to be chosen out of each of the three thematic subject areas Physical Geography, Human Geography, as well as Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Science.

**with 60 ECTS credits Master's thesis**

CP	7. Semester (HS)	8. Semester (FS)	9. Semester (HS)	CP
1	GEO 400 Master's agreement 0 CP	GEO 510 Master's thesis		1
2	GEO 410 Geography.Matters.	Master's thesis may also be written over three semesters (max. 18 months).		2
3				3
4				4
5	4 CP			5
6	Core elective modules			6
7	Some core elective modules span over two semesters.			7
8				8
9				9
10				10
11				11
12				12
13				13
14				14
15				15
16				16
17				17
18				18
19				19
20				20
21				21
22				22
23		18 CP		23
24	Elective modules			24
25				25
26				26
27				27
28				28
29		6 CP		29
30			60 CP	30
31			GEO 512 Master's exam	31
32			2 CP	32

**Structure**  
 To obtain a Master's degree with a 60 ECTS credits Master thesis, a Master agreement (GEO 400) needs to be made with the supervisor of the Master's thesis during the first semester. At least 18 ECTS credits have to be completed with core elective modules offered by the Department of Geography.

**Emphasis**  
 The conditions for a designated emphasis within the Master of Geography are defined with the supervisor and recorded on the Master's agreement (GEO 400). No unit is obliged to offer the 60 ECTS credits Master's thesis. Whether the 60 ECTS credits Master's thesis can be written, has to be agreed upon with the supervisor.

**Degree in General Geography**  
 To obtain the degree in General Geography is only possible with a 30 ECTS credits Master's thesis.

**Overview**

- Compulsory modules
- Core elective modules
- Elective modules

HS: fall semester  
 FS: spring semester  
 CP: ECTS credits

**Core elective modules**

**Emphasis on Human Geography**

Fall Semester (HS)	Spring Semester (FS)
GEO 421 Development Studies (6 CP)	GEO 422 Qualitative Methodologies and Methods in Human Geography (6 CP)
GEO 423 Political Geography (6 CP)	GEO 424 Environment in History (6 CP)
GEO 432 Gender, Work and Space (6 CP)	GEO 425 Political Ecology (6 CP)
GEO 722 Human Geography Field Course 1 (3 CP)	GEO 433 Global Economic Geographies of Agriculture and Food Systems (6 CP)
GEO 723 Human Geography Field Course 2 (3 CP)	GEO 746 Human Geography Field Course 4 (3 CP)
GEO 724 Human Geography Field Course 3 (3 CP)	GEO 835 Geography of Sustainability Transitions (3 CP)
GEO 837 Regional Environmental Governance (3 CP)	GEO 838 Self-organised Seminar (3 CP)

**Emphasis on Physical Geography**

Fall Semester (HS)	Spring Semester (FS)
GEO 463 Soil Science I: Current challenges in soil science (2B) (6 CP)	GEO 411 Field studies on high mountain processes (3G) (6 CP)
GEO 475 Hydrological Modelling and Programming (H2K) (6 CP)	GEO 412 Soil Science III: Practical Project (2B) (6 CP)
GEO 815 Quantification and modelling of the Cryosphere: dynamic processes (3G) (3 CP)	GEO 419 Soil Science II: Seminar plant- soil systems in a changing world (2B) (6 CP)
GEO 851 Glacier Mass Balance Measurements and Analysis – from local observations to global assessments (3G) (3 CP)	GEO 471 Hydrological field measurements and calculations (H2K) (6 CP)
	GEO856 The high-mountain cryosphere: processes and risks (3G) (3 CP)
	GEO857 Snow and Avalanches: Processes and Risk Management (3G) (3 CP)
Over both semesters (HS & FS)	
GEO 417 Environmental archives and age determination (GCH) (6 CP)	
GEO 418 Atmosphere and Climate (H2K) (6 CP)	

**Emphasis on GIScience and Systems**

Fall Semester (HS)	Spring Semester (FS)
GEO 870 Spatial Statistics (3 CP)	GEO 876 Introduction to Programming for Spatial Problems (3 CP)
GEO 871 Retrieving Geographic (3 CP)	GEO 877 Spatial Algorithms (3 CP)
GEO 872 Advanced Spatial Analysis I (3 CP)	GEO 878 Geovisualisation (3 CP)
GEO 873 Cognitive Issues in GIScience (3 CP)	GEO 880 Computational Movement (3 CP)
GEO 874 Introduction to Databases (3 CP)	GEO 881 Advanced Spatial Analysis II (3 CP)
GEO 875 Spatial Databases (3 CP)	
GEO 879 Societal Issues in GIScience (3 CP)	

**Emphasis on Remote Sensing**

Fall Semester (HS)	Spring Semester (FS)
GEO 442 Specialization in Remote Sensing: Spectroscopy of the Earth System (6 CP)	GEO 441 Remote Sensing A: Seminar (6 CP)
GEO 443 Specialization in Remote Sensing: SAR and LIDAR (6 CP)	