

# Update

## Program (GEOG) - Geography AA-T.4002

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### **Program Catalog Summary:**

Associate in Arts for Transfer:

SC Program: AA-T.4002

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** Geography is the study of Earth's environments and how humans interact with them. Subject matter in the physical, biological, and social sciences is investigated in order to develop an understanding of our complex world. Students explore challenges and solutions to environmental change, resource use, urbanization, migration, conflict, and sustainability. Students are exposed to a range of geographic methods including field observation, research, map reading, and geospatial technologies. The Associate in Arts in Geography for Transfer degree is designed to prepare students for a seamless transfer into the CSU system to complete a baccalaureate degree in Geography or a similar major.

This degree is approved through the California Community College Chancellor's Office. Upon satisfactory completion of all degree requirements and filing an application for graduation with Admissions and Records, the student's transcript will reflect completion of this degree.

### **PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this degree, the student should be able to:

1. Outline the foundations of physical and human geography.
2. Summarize world regions and local landscapes in terms of geographic characteristics and interconnections.
3. Perform spatial reasoning to address contemporary challenges and opportunities.
4. Effectively use maps to interpret landscapes and measure geographic phenomena.
5. Discuss the role of geospatial technologies in the acquisition, analysis, and display of geographic data.

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
In addition to the 37-39 unit general education pattern for CSU or IGETC, students must complete the core courses listed below for the Associate in Science in Physics for Transfer Degree. Students must also obtain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 and a C or better in each major course. A "P" (Pass) grade is not an acceptable grade for courses in this major.

In addition to the 37-39 unit general education pattern for CSU or IGETC, students must complete the core courses listed below for the Associate in Science in Geology for Transfer Degree. Students must also obtain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 and a C or better in each major course, or a "P" if the course is taken on a Pass/No Pass basis.

### **REQUIRED CORE:**

GEOG 1A Physical Geography 3  
GEOG 1AL Physical Geography Lab 1  
GEOG 1B Human Geography 3

LIST A (Select two to three courses): 6-10

GEOG 7 California Geography (3)  
GEOG 8 World Regional Geography (3)  
GEOG 9 Map and Geospatial Principles (3)  
GEOG 10 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3)

ESCI 14 Meteorology (4)  
GEOG 2A Physical Field Geography (1) OR  
GEOG 2B Human Field Geography (1)

LIST B (Select two courses): 6

Any List A course not already used

GEOG 5 Digital Planet: GIS and Society (3)  
ANTH 2 Cultural Anthropology (3)

**ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN GEOGRAPHY FOR TRANSFER DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:**

Major	19-23
General Education	37-39
General Electives	7-18

Degree Total Will Not  
Exceed 60 Units

## *Fall 2018*

### **PRIOR PROGRAM REVIEW REFLECTION (If applicable)**

#### **CURRENT PROGRAM REVIEW**

**Who completed this form:** Dan Scollon

**Participation in completing this report:** Area Faculty (list in the next box)

**Summarize participation comments:** This update was written by Dan Scollon, informed by consultation with Geography adjunct instructor Melinda Kashuba

**Discuss some of the program successes and benefits to the students and/or community:** The AAT has now been an available option for two complete school years, 2016/17 and 2017/18. As of this reporting, only one degree has been awarded. There are a number of student who are in the process of completing the degree, but this does reflect a need to expand advertising and outreach efforts.

**List each PLO and write a brief narrative summary analysis discussing outcomes for each of them:** There are 5 PLOs for the AAT listed below. While these have not been measured and assessed (at this time Shasta College is not evaluating PLOs), SLOs have been evaluated for all the courses required for the degree, which have in turn been mapped to the following 5 PLOs:

- Outline Foundations of Physical & Human Geography
- Summarize World Regions & Local Landscapes in Geographic Terms- Spatial Reasoning
- Use Maps to Interpret Landscapes & Measure Geographic Phenomena
- Discuss the Role of Geospatial Technologies

**Describe how this program supports a transfer pathway to CSU or UC:** The Geography Program has on-going contacts and interaction with faculty from Geography Departments at CSU Chico, HSU, and other universities. Participation in the California Geographical Society and Association of Pacific Coast Geographers annual conferences reinforces these contacts and the potential for student transfer. Students have also been taken to these conferences.

#### **PROGRAM DATA ANALYSIS**

**Program Effectiveness:** The limited program completion data (just 1 award) makes this a difficult metric of Program Effectiveness. The Geography AAT is part of the larger Geography and GIS Program, which includes the GIS Cert. and GIS AS Degree. This results in students, in some cases, working towards multiple degrees. Specific to the AAT, Geography has long suffered from a lack of "name recognition" which limits the number of students who come in planning to pursue geography. Often students "get the hook" once they've take a few geography courses. And while participation in professional meetings, community events such as career fairs and GIS Day, and in-class promotion by faculty, there is an opportunity to expand on outreach and marketing of the program.

**Course Success Rates:** Using a base line of 70% success rate, based on the Tableau compilation provided, the core, discipline specific GEOG courses fall just shy of this target at 68% success overall (retention is 83%). Individual courses show some variability, with the 5-year average success ranging from a high with GEOG 1A (Physical) at 72% and GEOG 1B (Human) with a low of 56%. GEOG 7 (Calif) and GEOG 8 (World) each sit at 68% success rate for the 5-year time period. It is worth noting that the highest success for these courses is GEOG 1A, the lone course that meets the Physical Science transfer requirement. This

may stem in part from the fact that this course has only been taught fully online since last year. Meanwhile, GEOG 1B has been taught almost entirely online, with GEOG 7 and GEOG 8 being offered online with regularity. These data therefore reflect, in part, the success differential between online and face-to-face classes. The success rate for GEOG courses that also meet the requirements of GIS Cert and AS degree, is higher than those for the "traditional" geography courses. Name, GEOG 9 (Map and Geospatial) has a 5-yr success rate of 76% and GEOG 10 (Intro to GIS) of 80%. These numbers are based on a smaller sample size (smaller classes), but also may reflect a level of commitment for those folks that are pursuing career-technical education versus those on a transfer track.

**Course Retention Rates:** Retention rates of the core GEOG courses sits at 83% for the 5 year period. GEOG 9 and 10 show similar rates of 81 and 84%, respectively.

**Course Enrollments:** Overall GEOG course enrollments ranged from a low in Spring 14 of 163 to a high of 274 in Spring 2015. Overall enrollments have increase in the latter part of the evaluation period, with the past two years averaging around 250 per semester. Average fill rages range from a low 53% in Fall 14 to a high of 74% in Spring 17. These data include some GIS-specific courses that are not required for the AAT.

**Equity:** Gender equity shows a roughly 50-50 split between males and females with the 2017-18 school year being the first in which female out-numbered males (52% to 48%), based on the 5-year average. Age of students show over half the students to be under 25 years old with the 20 to 24 age category being the largest at 32%. Still, 22% of students are between 30 and 50 years of ages, with 6% over fifty. Ethnicity number show whites ranging from 68 to 79% over the 5 year period. Hispanics have increased from a low of 8% in 2013-14 to a high of 13% in 2017-18. All other groups have remained a small percentage at less than 3%. The exception is 2 or more races which have increased from 3% in 2013-14 to 6% in 2017-18.

## **CURRICULUM**

**Review of courses with prerequisites:** Prerequisite requirements have been part of the ongoing curriculum review process. As a member of the Curriculum Committee, the issue of pre-requisites has been a recurring topic of discussion. The open issue of the ENGL prerequisite is currently outstanding as the college ENGL faculty work to meet the latest standards and conform to directives from the Chancellor's Office.

**Challenges to offering key courses:** With a dedicated classroom (1316) and online offerings, scheduling of courses does not represent a barrier. How to best schedule classes to meet student needs is an area of improvement. A significant recent change is retirement of long-time adjunct Stefan Plyley, who taught mostly ITV courses out of Red Bluff. This coincides with continued increase in online offerings, especially with the addition of GEOG 1A to our online offerings. Demand continues to be higher for online courses, but the program remains committed to offering face-to-face courses. In addition, field experience which if central to the study of Geography is met with our two field-specific courses, GEOG 2A and GEOG 2B. Field trips are also part of the GEOG 1AL, as well as periodically for GEOG 7. Geography courses (GEOG 1B, GEOG 2A, GEOG 2B) have also been taught as part of the Global Education Program over the past 4 years during the Summer term.

**Course changes:** No new or renamed courses.

## **SUMMARY**

**Changes or improvements needed based on the analysis above:** The AAT as Shasta College is still quite new, but there is clearly an opportunity to improve our outreach and marketing. While continuing offer courses online, we will continue to engage on campus students. This is supported by the student GEO Club and providing opportunities for students are partake in professional conferences (we will take a group of students to the CGS meeting in L.A. in Spring 2019). Geography offers students the opportunity for students to engage in real-world problems and solutions, from climate change to immigration. Expanding marketing and outreach, including working with counselors and the marketing department, will continue to strengthen the program and increase enrollments, success rates, and degree completers.

**Note any resources you intend to request through the Area Planning process to improve the program:** This year's Area Plan request, updated from last year, is for full funding of the ArcGIS site license. While more directly affecting the GIS Certificate and AS Degrees, this also supports the AAT. In particular GEOG 9 and GEOG 10 rely on this access to ArcGIS software. Furthermore, this grounds the program in applied geography through community projects. The latest is an evolving collaboration between USFS, NPS, Whiskeytown Environmental School and Shasta College to conduct photo monitoring and mapping in the wake of the recent Carr Fire.

**Other information/reflections on the program:** Shasta College's Geography and GIS program provide rigorous and applied education, with a strong foundation in geography standards. Active involvement with statewide Geography education professional organizations such as the California Geographical Society contribute to best practices in geographic education.

**Conclusion:** The AAT in Geography has now been available for two years and records show one degree completer. With a robust list of courses offered, a competent and connected faculty, the expectation is that the student course success will continue to increase and the number of AAT awards will grow. Doing so will require making students aware that Geography is a viable degree to pursue, and not simply a box to check off on the Gen Ed pattern. Faculty have long engaged students in community meetings and events, ranging from Career Fairs to GIS Day and the Whole Earth and Watershed Festival, but there is an opportunity to do

more. We can provide more information to students about degree options and do better at tracking of student who are taking more than one GEOG course. Furthermore, as the college works to make students more aware of transfer degrees, including Geography, there should be more degrees awarded.

**\*\*BELOW TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE\*\***

## COURSE STATISTICS

		Academic Year				
Course Name		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
ANTH-1	# of Sections	2	2	2	2	2
	Enrollment	105	96	85	56	56
	FTES	10.1	8.9	8.5	4.9	3.2
	FTEF	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.20
	WSCH	303	267	255	147	96
	Avg Enrl/Section	53	48	43	28	28
	Avg FTES FTEF	25.25	22.25	21.25	12.25	16.00
	Avg WSCH FTEF	758	668	638	368	480
GEOG-1A	# of Sections	1	1	1	5	4
	Enrollment	32	32	27	75	99
	FTES	2.9	2.9	2.4	6.8	9.0
	FTEF	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.54	0.80
	WSCH	87	87	72	204	274
	Avg Enrl/Section	32	32	27	15	25
	Avg FTES FTEF	14.50	14.50	12.00	9.83	11.25
	Avg WSCH FTEF	435	435	360	295	343
GEOG-1AL	# of Sections					1
	Enrollment					21
	FTES					2.0
	FTEF					0.15
	WSCH					60
	Avg Enrl/Section					21
	Avg FTES FTEF					13.33
	Avg WSCH FTEF					400
GEOG-1B	# of Sections	1	1		2	2
	Enrollment	20	22		63	60
	FTES	1.7	2.1		5.5	5.6
	FTEF	0.20	0.20		0.40	0.40
	WSCH	51	63		170	173
	Avg Enrl/Section	20	22		32	30
	Avg FTES FTEF	8.50	10.50		13.75	14.00
	Avg WSCH FTEF	255	315		425	433
GEOG-2A	# of Sections					1
	Enrollment					27
	FTES					1.9
	FTEF					0.11
	WSCH					56
	Avg Enrl/Section					27
	Avg FTES FTEF					16.62
	Avg WSCH FTEF					517
GEOG-2B	# of Sections	1		1	1	2
	Enrollment	17		21	15	40
	FTES	1.1		0.8	0.7	2.4

	FTEF	0.11		0.11	0.11	0.22
	WSCH	32		22	21	72
	Avg Enrl/Section	17		21	15	20
	Avg FTES FTEF	9.51		6.93	6.74	10.90
	Avg WSCH FTEF	295		203	194	332
GEOG-5	# of Sections	1	1	1	2	1
	Enrollment	32	27	18	57	22
	FTES	2.6	1.8	1.7	5.3	1.9
	FTEF	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.40	0.20
	WSCH	80	56	52	163	59
	Avg Enrl/Section	32	27	18	29	22
	Avg FTES FTEF	13.00	9.00	8.50	13.25	9.50
	Avg WSCH FTEF	400	280	260	408	295
GEOG-7	# of Sections	13	6	9	10	9
	Enrollment	247	191	183	189	168
	FTES	22.2	17.6	17.3	16.9	15.6
	FTEF	1.40	1.20	1.20	1.37	1.20
	WSCH	673	534	526	513	474
	Avg Enrl/Section	19	32	20	19	19
	Avg FTES FTEF	13.93	14.67	13.58	10.86	11.50
	Avg WSCH FTEF	423	445	413	330	350
GEOG-8	# of Sections	3	8	5	4	2
	Enrollment	104	85	162	89	44
	FTES	8.4	7.3	14.4	8.6	4.3
	FTEF	0.60	0.57	1.00	0.80	0.40
	WSCH	254	222	444	263	131
	Avg Enrl/Section	35	11	32	22	22
	Avg FTES FTEF	14.00	7.50	14.40	10.75	10.75
	Avg WSCH FTEF	423	230	444	329	328
GEOG-9	# of Sections		2	2	1	1
	Enrollment		49	39	31	24
	FTES		6.8	4.2	2.9	4.0
	FTEF		0.57	0.57	0.28	0.28
	WSCH		205	157	144	120
	Avg Enrl/Section		25	20	31	24
	Avg FTES FTEF		12.05	7.36	10.24	14.12
	Avg WSCH FTEF		362	277	508	424
GEOG-10	# of Sections		1	2	1	1
	Enrollment		26	25	19	17
	FTES		1.8	3.8	2.5	2.8
	FTEF		0.28	0.57	0.28	0.28
	WSCH		93	115	75	85
	Avg Enrl/Section		26	13	19	17
	Avg FTES FTEF		6.35	6.76	8.82	9.99
	Avg WSCH FTEF		328	203	265	300
Grand Total	# of Sections	22	22	23	28	26
	Enrollment	534	474	497	523	473

FTES	49.0	49.2	53.1	54.1	52.7
FTEF	3.11	3.62	4.24	4.59	4.24
WSCH	1,480	1,527	1,643	1,700	1,600
Avg Enrl/Section	24	22	22	19	18
Avg FTES FTEF	14.72	12.91	12.58	10.99	12.04
Avg WSCH FTEF	446	399	388	342	367