In the geological sciences program, you explore Earth by applying field and laboratory techniques to understand how rocks form, mountains are built, volcanoes erupt and earthquakes happen. You learn to solve scientific problems aimed at understanding the fundamental processes responsible for the evolution of our planet.

Program Description

Geological science is the study of Earth and other planets with an emphasis on the processes that have shaped them since the origin of the solar system. Students explore topics such as the co-evolution of life, oceans, atmosphere and the Earth's climate system, and the record of that evolution encoded in rocks, soil, ice and isotopes.

The BS program in earth and space exploration with a concentration in geological sciences educates students in the fundamentals of geological sciences, providing a solid background in chemistry, mathematics and physics as well as mineralogy, structural geology, field geology and a variety of geologic subdisciplines.

Students gain a strong understanding of field methods as well as modern computing, remote sensing and instrumentation to effectively study the natural environment and Earth's resources. Graduates of the program can apply their knowledge for the benefit of Arizona, the nation and society in general.

Students currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in earth and space exploration (geological sciences) may not pursue a concurrent degree with the BS in earth and space exploration, the BS in earth and space exploration (astrophysics), the BA in earth and environmental studies, the BS in earth and space exploration (astrobiology and biogesinces) or the BS in earth and space exploration (exploration systems design) due to the high level of overlap in curriculum. Students should speak with their academic advisor for any further questions.

At a Glance


- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe campus](#)

- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 265 - Calculus for Engineers I or MAT 270 Calculus with Analytic Geometry I
- **Math Intensity:** Substantial

## Required Courses (Major Map)

- [2020 - 2021 Major Map](#)
- [Major Map (Archives)](#)

## Admission Requirements

**General University Admission Requirements:**

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[Freshman] | [Transfer] | [International] | [Readmission]

## Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to [https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request) for information about how to change a major to this program.

## Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the [Transfer Map search](#) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save
time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

Sample careers include:

- environmental geologist
- geological engineer
- geologist
- mining geologist
- petroleum geologist
- science policy intern
- science writer

Sample career settings include:

- environmental industry
- geotechnical industry
- mining and petroleum industries
- museums
- publishers

Some of the listed careers may require advanced degrees or additional certifications. This program also provides suitable preparation for graduate study.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forester</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>$60,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geologist</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>$89,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology Professor</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>$87,380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hydrogeologist</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$118,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrologist</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$79,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Ranger</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>$61,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Conservationist</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>$61,480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

🌞 Bright Outlook 🌿 Green Occupation

Contact Information

Schedule an advisor appointment
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