



University Council

March 11, 2022

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2021-2022

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Graduate School – Wendy Ruona

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Matthew Jue

Graduate Student Representative – Sarah Burns

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences to terminate the following areas of emphasis under the major in Geography (B.S.) will be an agenda item for the March 18, 2022, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting:

- Area of Emphasis in Earth Systems Science
- Area of Emphasis in Environmental Geography
- Area of Emphasis in Geospatial Analysis and Visualization
- Area of Emphasis in Global Environmental Change
- Area of Emphasis in Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry
- Area of Emphasis in Urban and Community Studies

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu  
Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

# PROPOSAL FOR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Date:** November 17, 2021

**School/College:** Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

**Department/Division:** Geography

**Major and Degree:** Geography (B.S.)

**Areas of Emphasis to be terminated:** Area of Emphasis in Earth Systems Science  
Area of Emphasis in Environmental Geography  
Area of Emphasis in Geospatial Analysis and Visualization  
Area of Emphasis in Global Environmental Change  
Area of Emphasis in Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry  
Area of Emphasis in Urban and Community Studies

**Which campus(es) offer this program?** Athens

**Deactivation or Termination?** Termination

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2022

**Last date students will be admitted to this program:** Fall 2021

**Last date students will graduate from this program:** Summer 2023

**Program Abstract:** These areas of emphasis were created to provide students in the Geography (B.S.) major with suggested course specializations for interest in earth sciences (Earth Systems Science), physical geography and environmental issues (Environmental Geography), GIScience and Technology (Geospatial Analysis and Visualization), climate change (Global Environmental Change), remote sensing tools and technologies (Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry), or urban geography (Urban and Community Studies).

**1. State the reasons for termination of the programs, and provide copies of any relevant documents.**

The areas of emphasis under Geography (B.S.) have had low enrollment for multiple years, and the department's current course planning does not adequately support them as options for students moving forward. The faculty have decided to terminate all areas of emphasis under this major in order to focus more on the majors, minors, and certificates offered by the department.

Additionally, the content in the Area of Emphasis in Geospatial Analysis Visualization and the Area of Emphasis in Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry is also offered in the Undergraduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science, and content of the Area of Emphasis in Urban and Community Studies is also offered in Undergraduate Certificate in Urban and Metropolitan Studies.

**2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the programs upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.**

There is no impact on faculty and staff by terminating these areas of emphasis. Faculty will continue to teach courses offered in the department's other programs.

**3. What will be done to ensure that termination of these programs does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?**

Terminating the areas of emphasis will allow faculty to focus on supporting the core courses in the department's majors and certificates. The terminations will not impact course offerings or any programs outside the department.

## Documentation of Approval and Notification

**Proposal:** Termination of Areas of Emphasis under the major in Geography (B.S.)

**College:** Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

**Department:** Geography

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2022

Department:

- Geography Department Head, Dr. Hilda Kurtz, 11/17/2021

School/College:

- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Jean Martin-Williams, 2/1/2022