Geology

Bachelor of Science in Geology

COURSE SELECTION

FRESHMAN

- As majors in Geology, you should take the honors courses GEOL 1107 Honors Dynamic Earth and GEOL 1117 Honors Earth and Life Through Time.
- Be sure to take GEOL 2000 Professional Development.
- Be sure to take GEOL 2010 Mineralogy and Optical Crystallography as this is a key requisite for higher level courses.
- Begin scouting out for Geology Elective classes (Groups A and B).
- Purchase field & camping gear and get into shape for summer field camp (GEOL 3650)
- Work on your ePortfolio in the fall and take Senior Seminar (GEOL 4740) in the Spring.

SOPHOMORE

- Toward the end of the year, talk with your faculty advisor about areas of geology that interest you and possible Directed Study classes for next year.
- Ask for help from your faculty advisor finding a Directed Study or Research Methods topic.
- Start studying for the Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) exam.
- Keep your grades up and consider Grad School.
- Look into the possibilities of internships.
- Now's the time to get serious if you’re considering grad school – take the GRE!

JUNIOR

- Consider attending a regional meeting such as the SouthEastern Geological Society of America (SEGSA).
- Think about your out-of-class experiences and course-based research as components of the ePortfolio you will be putting together.
- Look to attend SEGSA with the possibility of National Geological Society of America (GSA).
- Attend an Alabama Geological Society (AGS) field trip, and look into other professional geology organizations.
- Take ASBOG Exam.
- Present Directed Study research at SEGSA.

SENIOR

- Go to the Dept. colloquium when possible. Spend some time reading online and on the Department’s Web site to see what is going on in the discipline and in the Department.
- Consider attending a regional meeting such as the SouthEastern Geological Society of America (SEGSA).
- Think about your out-of-class experiences and course-based research as components of the ePortfolio you will be putting together.
- Look to attend SEGSA with the possibility of National Geological Society of America (GSA).
- Attend an Alabama Geological Society (AGS) field trip, and look into other professional geology organizations.
- Take ASBOG Exam.
- Present Directed Study research at SEGSA.

ASK FOR ASSISTANCE

- Meet with your Geology faculty advisor. Get to know other faculty members as well.

GAIN EXPERIENCE

- Go to the Dept. colloquium when possible. Spend some time reading online and on the Department’s Web site to see what is going on in the discipline and in the Department.
- Consider attending a regional meeting such as the SouthEastern Geological Society of America (SEGSA).
- Think about your out-of-class experiences and course-based research as components of the ePortfolio you will be putting together.

GET INVOLVED

- Join the Geoclub and attend their meetings, events, and field trips.
- Spend time in the student lounge areas within the Department.
- Geoclub field trips ---- now with the thought of collecting data for future research.
- See if you can help a graduate student with his/her research.
- Utilize AUInvolve (auburn.edu/auinvolve) to identify organizations of interest to attend meetings and enhance your resume.

Career Planning

Auburn University Career Center
303 Mary Martin Hall | auburn.edu/career

Candidates entering into the field should know that there is field-work component associated with most positions. Geologists serve in key roles associated with environmental impact and natural resources protection & management. Candidates will find employment in government and business organizations with interests in these areas.

Geoscientist
Minimum Education: B.S.
Entry Level Salary Range: $37.0K - $65.1K

Hydrologist
Minimum Education: B.S./M.S.
Entry Level Salary Range: $50.0K - $78.3K

Geological & Petroleum Technician
Minimum Education: B.S.
Entry Level Salary Range: $34.8K - $58.8K

These are just three options out of many that geology majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.