HONOURS BSc in Geology-Physics

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences offers programs in geology and, in co-operation with the Department of Physics, also offers a program in geology-physics. The Department is part of the Ottawa-Carleton Geoscience Centre, and its research areas include pre-cambrian studies, tectonics, resource geology, northern studies, environmental geoscience and geochemistry.

Geology studies the composition and evolution of Earth and of other planetary bodies. The discipline extends into many areas: mineralogy, petrology, palaeontology, sedimentology, environmental geology, economic geology, geochemistry, structural geology, and geophysics.

Thus, geologists study matter and geological processes in all their diversity, from atoms and crystals to mountain ranges and the dynamics of the entire planet. The scientific methods used are equally diverse (field studies, instruments to probe the Earth's depths, microscope examination of minerals and fossils, elemental and isotopic analysis, experimental study of geochemical systems, and computer simulation of geological processes).

Although many program options are offered, students are encouraged to take the Honours B. Sc. in Geology or Geology-Physics, which allows them to meet the accreditation requirements of professional bodies and practice as geoscientists.

In first year, students increase their knowledge of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology. Later, they complete several geology courses, which consist of lectures, problem-solving assignments, laboratory work and field excursions.

This program is offered in English and in French.

Program Requirements

Co-operative education is available with this program.

The extended French stream is available with this program.

BIO 1130  Introduction to Organismal Biology  3 Units
CHM 1311  Principles of Chemistry  3 Units
GEO 1111  Introduction to Earth Systems  3 Units
GEO 1115  Introduction to Earth Materials  3 Units
ITI 1120  Introduction to Computing I  3 Units
MAT 1320  Calculus I  3 Units
MAT 1322  Calculus II  3 Units
MAT 1341  Introduction to Linear Algebra  3 Units
PHY 1121  Fundamentals of Physics I  3 Units
PHY 1122  Fundamentals of Physics II  3 Units
3 course units from:

CHM 2330  Physical Chemistry: Introduction to the Molecular Properties of Matter  3 Units
CHM 2353  Descriptive Inorganic Chemistry  3 Units

GEO 2020  Field Studies I  3 Units
GEO 2163  Introduction to Mineralogy  3 Units
GEO 2164  Analytical Methods in Mineralogy  3 Units
GEO 2165  Stratigraphy and Sedimentation  3 Units

PHY 2104  Introduction to Circuit Theory and Electronics  3 Units
PHY 2323  Electricity and Magnetism  3 Units

PHY 2333  Mechanics  3 Units
GEO 3191  Applied Geophysics  3 Units
GEO 3382  Geochemistry  3 Units
PHY 3380  Physics of the Earth  3 Units
GEO 4010  Honours Project  6 Units
6 optional course units in geology (GEO) at the 3000 or 4000 level  6 Units
6 optional course units in physics (PHY) at the 3000 or 4000 level  6 Units
12 elective course units from the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Social Sciences or the Telfer School of Management  12 Units
15 elective course units  15 Units

Total:  120 Units

Note(s)

1. A language course at the 1000 or 2000 level is strongly recommended.

Students who take the Geology-Physics Program and wish to become registered members of the Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario must take 21 units in Earth Sciences from among the optional courses in order to satisfy the requirements of the professional association.

This message is intended for students registered in the Faculty of Science. If the components of your program of study require common compulsory courses, you will have to replace the units as follows:

1. 1000-level courses must be replaced with elective course units;
2. 2000-level courses and above must be replaced with optional course units from either discipline at the same level or above.

Please note that all programs in the Faculty of Science require a minimum of 12 elective course units offered by the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Social Sciences or the Telfer School of Management. Once you have decided on the replacement courses, please inform the Office of Undergraduate Programs of the Faculty of Science by email at infosci@uOttawa.ca so that we may amend your Academic Advisement accordingly.