

College of Science  
Department of Geosciences  
Bachelor of Science in Geosciences (BS)  
Geophysics Option  
For students graduating in calendar year 2021

**CURRICULUM FOR LIBERAL EDUCATION (CLE) REQUIREMENTS**

(CLE) requirements and approved courses are available online:

<http://www.cle.prov.vt.edu/guides/index.html>

(credit hours in parentheses)

**Writing and Discourse** (Area 1: 6 credits)

(ENGL 1105-1106 Freshman English)

(3)\_\_\_\_

(3)\_\_\_\_

**Ideas, Cultural Traditions, and Values** (Area 2: 6 credits required)

(Select from approved CLE courses)

(3)\_\_\_\_

(3)\_\_\_\_

**Society and Human Behavior** (Area 3: 6 credits required)

(Select from approved CLE courses)

(3)\_\_\_\_

(3)\_\_\_\_

**Scientific Reasoning and Discovery** (Area 4)

(Area fulfilled by CHEM 1035 and CHEM 1036)

**Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning** (Area 5)

(Area fulfilled by MATH 1225 and MATH 1226)

**Creativity and Aesthetic Experience** (Area 6: 3 credits required)

(Select from approved CLE courses; must be a three-credit course)

(3)\_\_\_\_

**Critical Issues in a Global Context** (Area 7: 3 credits required)

(Select from approved CLE courses)

(3)\_\_\_\_

**CLE credit hour requirement:**

**24 credits**

**COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS**

\* indicates course with prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s) – please see chart on last page

**Geoscience Courses (48 credits)**

GEOS 2004*	Geoscience Fundamentals <sup>2</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 2024	Earth’s Dynamic Systems <sup>1</sup>	(8)___	
GEOS 2444*	Geoscience Field Observation <sup>2</sup>	(2)___	
GEOS 3104*	Elementary Geophysics <sup>2</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 3204*	Sedimentology Stratigraphy <sup>1</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 3404*	Elements of Structural Geology <sup>1</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 3504*	Mineralogy <sup>1</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 3604*	Paleontology <sup>2</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 3704*	Igneous & Metamorphic Rocks <sup>2</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 4024*	Senior Seminar <sup>2</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 4xxx*	Elective <sup>8</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 4154*	Earthquake Seismology <sup>4</sup>	(3)___	
GEOS 4164*	Potential Field Methods in Exploration Geophysics <sup>5</sup>	(4)___	
GEOS 4174*	Exploration Seismology <sup>6</sup>	(4)___	

**Mathematics Courses (22-23 credits)**

MATH 1114 or	Elementary Linear Algebra	(2)___	
MATH 2114*	Introduction to Linear Algebra	(3)___	
MATH 1225 – 1226*	Calculus of a Single Variable	(4)___	(4)___
MATH 2204*	Introduction Multivariable Calculus	(3)___	
MATH 2214*	Introduction to Differential Equations	(3)___	
CS 1044	Introduction to Programming in C	(3)___	
STAT 3005*	Statistical Methods	(3)___	

**Natural Science Courses (22 credits)**

CHEM 1035 – 1036*	General Chemistry	(3)___	(3)___
CHEM 1045* – 1046*	General Chemistry Lab	(1)___	(1)___
PHYS 2305* - 2306*	Foundations of Physics I and Lab	(4)___	(4)___
Science/Math*	Elective <sup>7</sup>	(3)___	(3)___

**Free Electives (3-4 credits)**

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**College and department credit hour requirement:**

**96 credits**

**Total to complete degree**

**120 credits**

<sup>1</sup>Taught only during fall semester

<sup>2</sup>Taught only during spring semester

<sup>3</sup>Taught even years during spring semester

<sup>4</sup>Taught odd years during spring semester

<sup>5</sup>Taught odd years during fall semester

<sup>6</sup>Taught even years during fall semester

<sup>7</sup>Select from GEOS 4XXX, MATH 4564 Operational Methods for Engineers, MATH 4574 Vector and Complex Analysis for Engineers, and PHYS 3XXX-4XXX. Maximum of 4 credits combined from GEOS 4974

Independent Study and GEOS 4994 Undergraduate Research.

<sup>8</sup>or advisor approved substitution

**Credit hours and GPA requirements:** Graduation requires completion of a minimum of 120 credit hours with a GPA of 2.0 or greater for all hours attempted. In addition, students must have an in-major GPA of 2.0 or greater. The in-major GPA is calculated from all geosciences courses.

**Prerequisites:** This checksheet has no hidden prerequisites, although some of the courses listed are prerequisites for other courses. Please consult the Undergraduate Course Catalog for more information.

**Substitutions:**

CHEM 1055 or CHEM 1055H for CHEM 1035 and CHEM 1056 or CHEM 1056H for CHEM 1036  
CHEM 1065/1066 for CHEM 1045/1046

CS 1344 Programming in C for CS 1044 Introduction to Programming in C

ENGL 1204H Honors Freshman English for ENGL 1106 Freshman English  
COMM 1015/1016 Communication Skills for ENGL 1105/1106 Freshman English

MATH 2114H Honors Introduction to Linear Algebra for MATH 2114 Introduction to Linear Algebra  
MATH 2214H Honors Introduction to Differential Equations for MATH 2214 Differential Equations

**Satisfactory progress towards degree:**

1. By 72 hours students must have completed the following courses and their prerequisites:  
GEOS 2004, 2024, 3104, 3404, 3504  
MATH 1114 or 2114, 1225, 1226, 2204, 2214  
CHEM 1035, 1036, 1045, 1046  
PHYS 2305, 2306
2. Students must achieve an overall GPA of 2.0 and an in-major GPA of 2.5 upon attempting 15 GEOS credit hours (including transfer credit, courses completed with a grade of "W", advance placement, or IB credit).
3. All GEOS courses will be used to calculate in-major GPA.

**Foreign Language Requirement:**

Students who did not successfully complete at least two years of a single foreign, classical, or sign language during high school must successfully complete six semester hours of a single foreign, classical, or sign language at the college level. Courses taken to meet this requirement do not count toward the hours required for graduation. Please consult the Undergraduate Catalog for details.

Course requirements are subject to change. Always check the Undergraduate Catalog for the most current prerequisite and corequisite information.

<b>Geophysics Option</b>			
<b>Courses</b>		<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>Corequisites</b>
GEOS 2004	Geosciences Fundamentals	GEOS 2024	None
GEOS 2024	Earth's Dynamic Systems	None	None
GEOS 2444	Geoscience Field Observations	GEOS 2024	None
GEOS 3104	Elementary Geophysics	Math 1205 or 1225, 1206 or 1226, GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444, Phys 2305	Phys 2306
GEOS 3204	Sedimentology Stratigraphy	GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444	None
GEOS 3404	Elements of Structural Geology	GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444	None
GEOS 3504	Mineralogy	Math 1205 or 1225, Chem 1036, GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444	None
GEOS 3604	Paleontology	GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444	None
GEOS 3704	Igneous & Metamorphic Rocks	GEOS 2004, 2024, 2444, 3504	None
GEOS 4024	Senior Seminar	GEOS 3104, 3204, 3404, 3504, 3604, 3704	None
GEOS 4xxx	Elective	Varies	Varies
GEOS 4154	Earthquake Seismology	GEOS 3104, Math 2214, 2224 or 2204 or 2204H, Phys 2305	None
GEOS 4164	Potential Field Methods in Exploration Geophysics	GEOS 3104, Math 2214, 2224 or 2204 or 2204H, Phys 2306	None
GEOS 4174	Exploration Seismology	GEOS 3104, Math 2224 or 2204 or 2204H, Phys 2305, 2306	None
CS 1044	Introduction to Programming in C	None	None
MATH 1114	Elementary Linear Algebra	None	None
MATH 2114	Introduction to Linear Algebra	Math 1225 or 1226	None
MATH 1225	Calculus of a Single Variable	None	None
MATH 1226	Calculus of a Single Variable	Math 1225	None
MATH 2204	Introduction Multivariable Calculus	Math 1226	None
MATH 2214	Introduction to Differential Equations	Math 1114 or 1114H or 2114 or 2114H, 1206 or 1226	None
STAT 3005	Statistical Methods	Math 1206 or 1225	None
CHEM 1035	General Chemistry	None	None
CHEM 1036	General Chemistry	Chem 1035 or 1055 or 1055H	None
CHEM 1045	General Chemistry Lab	None	Chem 1035
CHEM 1046	General Chemistry Lab	Chem 1045 or 1065	Chem 1036
PHYS 2305	Foundations of Physics I and Lab	Math 1205 or 1205H or 1225 or 1206 or 1206H or 1226	None
PHYS 2306	Foundations of Physics I and Lab	Math 1206 or 1206H or 1226, Phys 2305	None
Science/Math	Electives	Varies	Varies