



Bachelor in Geography : General

The 2024-2025 programme is subject to change. It is provided for information purposes only.

Programme mnemonic

BA-GEOG

Studies level

Bachelor

Learning language

french

Schedule

office hours

Studies category / subcategory

Sciences and technics / Sciences

Campus

Plaine and Solbosch

spatial distribution of various phenomena and the interactions between human beings and their environment. They introduce from the first year several courses in both physical and human geography. In physical geography, the courses deal with the formation of territories and their evolution under the influence of climate. In human geography, the courses offer keys to reading the spatial distribution of people and their activities at different scales (from the city to the continent) and throughout the world. From the second year onwards, geomatics courses are added, starting with cartography in the second block and geographic information systems in the third.

Programme's added value

Learning on a human scale: as most of the specific courses are given to small groups, they leave room for strong interaction between students, assistants and professors, which allows the use of active methods, the development of a critical perspective and leaves room for debate.

Active methods: based on concrete experiences and problem-questions revealing contemporary issues, students are gradually led to appropriate theories, experiment with methods and test models.

Open-source software: the methodological courses use open source software, allowing them to be used well beyond the university framework, in particular through the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Two excursions lasting several days, partly prepared by the students: one in Belgium, the other in Switzerland, they offer the opportunity to confront the field with a prior geographical analysis using the knowledge and analysis tools acquired during the training.

Teaching methods

From the first block onwards, almost half of the training consists of discipline-specific courses; this proportion increases gradually in the second and third blocks.

Programme objectives

Do you like travelling and maps? Do you like to understand the world around you? Are you interested in the relationship between human societies and their physical environment? Are you concerned about the major issues of our time, such as climate change, the biodiversity crisis, global development inequalities and social contrasts within cities? Are you looking for an education that can lead you to a wide variety of professions?

The Bachelor of Geographical Sciences provides a solid multidisciplinary training for the study of both the physical environment and human societies and the interactions between the former and the latter. Territories, whether urban or rural, are analysed with the help of maps and scientific methods to describe and understand their spatial organisation as well as the processes that govern and shape them (economic development, migratory flows, erosion phenomena, etc.).

Reading, analysis and production of maps, practical work, documentary research, excursions, oral presentations, etc., alone or in groups: through a variety of methods, geography training offers a solid education in the exact, natural, and human sciences. It covers the basic tools and knowledge needed to analyse the



From the 1st block, the ex-cathedra courses are supported by practical work, but also field trips (including a 4-day excursion in the 2nd and 3rd blocks alternating between Switzerland for physical geography and a tour of Belgium for human geography); the proportion of theoretical courses decreases from the 2nd block onwards to leave an important place to exercises, practical work and excursions. From the 2nd and especially the 3rd block, geography courses include personal research work. As most of the discipline-specific courses are given to small groups, the training includes excursions, fieldwork, group work, but also strong interaction between students, assistants, and professors. In the course of practical work and personal assignments, students learn to use specialised and free software to process geographic data (geographic information systems) or statistical data, as well as specialised libraries and map and atlas collections (map library).

Succeed in your studies

Choose

The information and guidance counsellors at the InfOR-études [<https://www.ulb.be/en/studies-info-desk-1>] service will help you choose your studies throughout the year.

Succeed

Take part in preparatory courses [<https://www.ulb.be/en/studies-info-desk-1>] or get help to succeed [<https://www.ulb.be/en/studies-info-desk-1>], before or during your studies.

Get help

Apply for financial aid, look for accommodation or a student job, get support [<https://www.ulb.be/fr/aides-services-et-accompagnement/aid-services-and-support-1>] for your specific needs.

International/Openness

Mobility programs are primarily developed within the Master programs. They should however be planned in the course of the Bloc 3 of the Bachelor program.

Job opportunities

Bachelors in geography can go on to a Master's degree in geographical sciences (human geography, territorial development, didactics or urban studies) or in environmental sciences and management (including physical geography).

By continuing the Bachelor's degree with a Master's degree in Geographical Sciences, graduates will have access to professions related to spatial planning, urban planning, the environment, geomatics and geomarketing, and will be able to answer questions such as Where to locate a new company, a new headquarters, a new infrastructure? How to map the territory and its evolution from aerial or satellite images? How to reconcile landscape or heritage protection with such development?

By extending the Bachelor's degree with a Master's degree in environmental sciences, the graduates will constitute a qualified workforce that is indispensable to the various national and international research programmes that today aim to reduce the uncertainties in our predictions of the future footprint of Man on our planet and to contribute to solutions for sustainable development at all spatial scales.

Contacts

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Bachelor in Geography : General

Reading, analysis and production of maps, practical work, documentary research, excursions, oral presentations, etc., alone or in groups: through a variety of methods, geography training offers a solid education in the exact, natural and human sciences. It covers the basic tools and knowledge needed to analyse the spatial distribution of various phenomena and the interactions between human beings and their environment. They introduce from the first year several courses in both physical and human geography, but also courses in geomatics. In physical geography, the courses deal with the formation of territories and their evolution under the influence of climate. In human geography, the courses offer keys to reading the spatial distribution of people and their activities at different scales (from the city to the continent) and throughout the world.

Bloc 1 | BA-GEOG

Cours obligatoires

CHIM-F101	Chimie générale Thierry VISART DE BOCARME (Coordinator), François RENIERS and Laurence RONGY ⌚ 10 credits [lecture: 72h, tutorial classes: 36h, practical work: 12h, project: 24h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French
ENVI-F1001	Sciences de la Terre, Environnement et Société Pierre REGNIER (Coordinator), Jean-Michel DECROLY and Frank PATTYN ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h, field trips: 12h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French
GEOG-F1001	Introduction à la géographie urbaine et à l'urbanisme : des données à l'analyse Eléonore WOLFF (Coordinator) and Mathieu VAN CRIEKENGEN ⌚ 10 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 60h, field trips: 8h, project: 60h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F102	Géomorphologie structurale et dynamique Frank PATTYN (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 20h, practical work: 24h, field trips: 8h, project: 10h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F103	Fondements de la géographie humaine Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h, project: 20h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOL-F105	Géologie de l'Europe Vinciane DEBAILLE (Coordinator) and Steeve BONNEVILLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 16h, field trips: 16h] 📅 second term
MATH-F119	Mathématiques ⌚ 10 credits [lecture: 60h, tutorial classes: 60h] 📅 academic year 🗨 French
PHYS-F104	Physique 1 Barbara CLERBAUX (Coordinator), Sébastien CLESSE and Michele SFERRAZZA ⌚ 10 credits [lecture: 72h, tutorial classes: 36h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French

Bachelor in Geography : General

Bloc 2 | BA-GEOG

Cours obligatoires

BIOL-F102	Biologie générale Patrick MARDULYN (Coordinator) and Etienne MEYLAN ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
ECON-D210	Economie politique générale Gani ALDASHEV (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F203	Climatologie et glaciologie Frank PATTYN (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 24h, project: 10h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F207	Excursions de géographie I Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator), François FRIPIAT and Frank PATTYN ⌚ 5 credits [field trips: 32h, project: 10h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F210	Géographie de l'Europe Gilles VAN HAMME (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F315	Analyses et représentations spatiales Eléonore WOLFF (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 36h, project: 70h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French
GEOL-F2001	Introduction à la minéralogie et à la pédologie Steeve BONNEVILLE (Coordinator) and Thomas DROUET DE LA THIBAUDERIE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 28h, practical work: 12h, field trips: 12h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
INFO-F206	Informatique Olivier MARKOWITCH (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 24h, project: 12h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
LANG-F201	Anglais scientifique I Alexander CORNFORD (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [tutorial classes: 48h] 📅 second term 🗨 English
MATH-F316	Biogéostatistiques Thomas VERDEBOUT (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French

Formation complémentaire en sciences exactes

One course chosen from the following

CHIM-F1101 (optional)	Chimie générale Thierry VISART DE BOCARME (Coordinator), François RENIERS and Laurence RONGY ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 12h, tutorial classes: 12h, practical work: 36h] 📅 second term
MATH-F115 (optional)	Compléments d'analyse et algèbre linéaire Joel FINE (Coordinator) and Michele D'ADDERIO ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
PHYS-F205 (optional)	Physique 2 Michel TYTGAT (Coordinator) and Michele SFERRAZZA ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 16h, practical work: 20h] 📅 first term 🗨 French

Options dirigées

A total of five credits chosen from the following

Sciences de l'environnement

CHIM-F102 (optional)	Chimie organique 1 Cécile MOUCHERON (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 18h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
CHIM-F1101 (optional)	Chimie générale Thierry VISART DE BOCARME (Coordinator), François RENIERS and Laurence RONGY ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 12h, tutorial classes: 12h, practical work: 36h] 📅 second term
GEOLOG-F104 (optional)	Les temps géologiques : concepts et méthodes Sandra ARNDT (Coordinator) and Goulven GILDAS LARUELLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOLOG-F204 (optional)	Sédimentologie Xavier DEVLEESCHOUWER (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 12h, field trips: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOLOG-F211 (optional)	Introduction à la pétrologie Nadine MATTIELLI (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 12h, practical work: 34h, field trips: 16h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOLOG-F307 (optional)	Cycle de la matière et de l'énergie dans les systèmes géologiques Pierre REGNIER (Coordinator) and Steeve BONNEVILLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
MATH-F115 (optional)	Compléments d'analyse et algèbre linéaire Joel FINE (Coordinator) and Michele D'ADDARIO ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
PHYS-F105 (optional)	La structure de l'univers Alain JORISSEN (Coordinator) and Rodrigo ALVAREZ ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
PHYS-F205 (optional)	Physique 2 Michel TYTGAT (Coordinator) and Michele SFERRAZZA ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 16h, practical work: 20h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
TRAN-F201 (optional)	Introduction aux enjeux de la durabilité Wouter ACHTEN (Coordinator) and Chiara ARMENI ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, project: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French

Sciences sociales

ETHI-F201 (optional)	Sciences, éthique, histoire et société Grégoire Wallenborn (Coordinator) and Eric MURAILLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
HIST-B115 (optional)	Histoire de l'Epoque contemporaine Pieter LAGROU (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
HIST-D102 (optional)	Critique historique appliquée aux sciences sociales Didier VIVIERS (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
HIST-S101 (optional)	Introduction à l'histoire globale du capitalisme Kenneth BERTRAMS (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
POLI-D101 (optional)	Introduction à la science politique Pascal DELWIT (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
SOCIA-D101 (optional)	Anthropologie sociale et culturelle I Joël Noret (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
SOCIA-D201 (optional)	Anthropologie sociale et culturelle II David BERLINER (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
SOCIA-D308 (optional)	Anthropologie économique Olivia Ange (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
SOCIA-D494 (optional)	Sociologie de la ville Pierre LANNOY (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
TRAN-F201 (optional)	Introduction aux enjeux de la durabilité Wouter ACHTEN (Coordinator) and Chiara ARMENI ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, project: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French

Bachelor in Geography : General

Bloc 3 | BA-GEOG

Cours obligatoires

BIOL-F305	Botanique, phytogéographie et ethnoécologie Farid DAHDOUH-GUEBAS (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 15h, field trips: 12h] 📅 second term 🗨 English/French
GEOG-F211	Systèmes d'information géographique et projections Eléonore WOLFF (Coordinator) and Michele D'ADDERIO ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 36h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F307	Excursions de géographie II Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator), François FRIPIAT and Frank PATTYN ⌚ 5 credits [field trips: 32h, project: 40h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOG-F313	Géographie régionale Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator), Gilles VAN HAMME and Eléonore WOLFF ⌚ 10 credits [lecture: 48h, practical work: 12h, project: 80h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French
GEOG-F318	Projet de recherche et communication scientifique Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [practical work: 12h, project: 60h] 📅 first and second terms 🗨 French
GEOG-S101	Géographie économique Gilles VAN HAMME (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
GEOL-F309	Géophysique et tectonophysique Corentin CAUDRON (Coordinator), Thomas LECOCQ and Frank PATTYN ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 32h, tutorial classes: 12h, field trips: 16h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
LANG-F301	Anglais scientifique II Hugh MURPHY (Coordinator) and Alexander CORNFORD ⌚ 5 credits [tutorial classes: 48h] 📅 first term 🗨 English
SOCA-D304	Démographie Jean-Michel DECROLY (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 12h] 📅 first term 🗨 French

Options dirigées

10 crédits à choisir en Bloc 3 (15 crédits sur le cycle)

10 to 15 credits chosen from the following

Sciences de l'environnement

BIOL-F201 (optional)	Evolution et diversité des eucaryotes : botanique Pierre Jacques MEERTS (Coordinator) and Jason VLEMINCKX ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 42h] 📅 academic year 🗨 French
BIOL-F309 (optional)	Ecologie Isabelle GEORGE (Coordinator), Pierre Jacques MEERTS and Jason VLEMINCKX ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, practical work: 30h] 📅 first term 🗨 French
CHIM-F102 (optional)	Chimie organique 1 Cécile MOUCHERON (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 18h] 📅 second term 🗨 French
CHIM-F1101 (optional)	Chimie générale Thierry VISART DE BOCARME (Coordinator), François RENIERS and Laurence RONGY ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 12h, tutorial classes: 12h, practical work: 36h] 📅 second term
GEOL-F104 (optional)	Les temps géologiques : concepts et méthodes Sandra ARNDT (Coordinator) and Goulven Gildas LARUELLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 24h] 📅 second term 🗨 French

GEOL-F204 (optional)	Sédimentologie Xavier DEVLEESCHOUWER (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, practical work: 12h, field trips: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
GEOL-F211 (optional)	Introduction à la pétrologie Nadine MATTIELLI (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 12h, practical work: 34h, field trips: 16h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
GEOL-F307 (optional)	Cycle de la matière et de l'énergie dans les systèmes géologiques Pierre REGNIER (Coordinator) and Steeve BONNEVILLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
MATH-F115 (optional)	Compléments d'analyse et algèbre linéaire Joel FINE (Coordinator) and Michele D'ADDERIO ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 30h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
PHYS-F105 (optional)	La structure de l'univers Alain JORISSEN (Coordinator) and Rodrigo ALVAREZ ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 first term 🗣 French
PHYS-F205 (optional)	Physique 2 Michel TYTGAT (Coordinator) and Michele SFERRAZZA ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 16h, practical work: 20h] 📅 first term 🗣 French
TRAN-F201 (optional)	Introduction aux enjeux de la durabilité Wouter ACHTEN (Coordinator) and Chiara ARMENI ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, project: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
Sciences sociales	
ETHI-F201 (optional)	Sciences, éthique, histoire et société Grégoire Wallenborn (Coordinator) and Eric MURAILLE ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 48h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
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SOCA-D101 (optional)	Anthropologie sociale et culturelle I Joël Noret (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 36h] 📅 first term 🗣 French
SOCA-D201 (optional)	Anthropologie sociale et culturelle II David BERLINER (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French
SOCA-D308 (optional)	Anthropologie économique Olivia Ange (Coordinator) ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h] 📅 first term 🗣 French
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TRAN-F201 (optional)	Introduction aux enjeux de la durabilité Wouter ACHTEN (Coordinator) and Chiara ARMENI ⌚ 5 credits [lecture: 24h, project: 24h] 📅 second term 🗣 French