

Geography Field Work Guidelines

Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in Geog 650 (Geography Field Work) or Geog 654 (Tropical Field Course) to satisfy the field work requirements of the Geography major. However, there are other options for fulfilling the field work requirement, which may suit some students based on their interests and goals. These options include taking Geog 489 (Internship in Geography, Upper Division), Geog 497 (Study Aboard), or Geog 699 (Independent Work), so long as that coursework incorporates field work activities amounting to a minimum of 90 hours in field research related activities. Field work involves the collection of raw/primary data. Field Work is performed outside of the classroom and is conducted on site. In survey research, field work refers to face-to-face interviewing (not telephone or email). It can also include the observation of people to examine their activities, social structures, and the like. Students should note that time devoted to traveling to field work locations, course readings, inputting data, report writing, and other course related activities do **not** count towards the 90 hour minimum.

Students electing to take Geog 489, 497, or 699 to fulfill this requirement must obtain faculty approval for their field research project before enrolling. To seek faculty approval, students must submit a written request to the Undergraduate Program Chair at least one week and a half prior to the Geography Department's faculty meeting, which is usually held in the first week of each month (excluding June to August, and January). This request should name the course to be taken, describe the research questions/project that the field work is designed to answer, and outline the nature of the field work to be done. Students are advised to seek assistance from the faculty adviser/instructor for 489, 497, or 699 in developing such a request.

To facilitate approval, students should list the field work activities being conducted and the time allotted to each activity below. This should be signed by the instructor/advisor for Geog 489, 497, or 699.

Field Work Activity

Duration

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Total Hours _____

Geog 489, 497, or 699 instructor/advisor (Print, sign and date)