

ISU Academic Advisor Campus Updates  
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- There is a great deal of overlap between geosciences and other sciences but there is no high school exposure. Consequently, students are not as familiar with this science as with biology & chemistry.
- ISU provides the following degrees:
  - Ph.D. in Engineering & Applied Science
  - M.S.
  - B.S. or B.A. in Earth & Environmental Systems
  - B.A. and B.S. in Geology
  - Associate Degree in Geology
  - Geology minor
  - GeoTechnology minor
- The B.S. & B.A. receive equal consideration for those seeking career opportunities. The B.A. in Geology requires 40 credits of geology courses and the B.S. in Geology requires 48 credits. Earning a B.S. & B.A. in Earth and Environmental Systems (EES) allows the graduate to focus on people and the environment (water quality, pollution, etc.).
- Most mining positions are outside the U.S. Jobs are available in Idaho and almost all focus on mining to explore ore and extract it. There are lots of travel opportunities for geologists, which can become less enchanting after a decade in the job. Those with a bachelor's degree in Geosciences can get jobs if they are an A or B student with strong recommendations, but it can take 20 years to work up to a managerial position.
- Twenty percent of ISU students go on to earn a graduate degree which allows managerial advancement within 5-10 years. Those who earn the Ph.D. usually teach or pursue research.
- Department is small (9 faculty) and upper-division courses are informal with 10-15 students in a class. Students get a lot of support from, and access to, the faculty, and field camps reinforce informality.
- Important skills needed for this major include strong writing ability, computer finesse, and the ability to visualize data based in 3 dimensions. As a result, artists and mechanics make good geologists. B.S. math requirements include Math 170 & 175, Chemistry 111 & 112, and physics 111 & 112 or 211 & 212 (preferred).
- Geology 100 or 101 AND Geol 110 (Physical Geology for Scientists lab) will satisfy Goal 5.
- General advice to potential majors is to take an introductory geology class, connect with Geosciences faculty asap, engage in discussion with other students and faculty, and save some of the general education course requirements to take in the junior and senior year so don't have to take 3 or more geology-required classes in a semester.