

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

<https://geog.ucsb.edu/>

College of Letters and Science

University of California, Santa Barbara

Student Name: _____

Perm: _____

MASTER OF ARTS – GEOGRAPHY –
2026-27 Plan I – Thesis & Plan II - Exam

In addition to departmental requirements, candidates for graduate degrees must fulfill University requirements described in the “Graduate Education” section of the UCSB General Catalog.

Time-To-Degree for the M.A. in Geography is 4 years.

The M.A. degree can be obtained through a Thesis Plan I, or an Examination Plan II.

*Thesis Plan I: A total of **34.0 units** are required. At least **20.0 units** must be from 200 & 500 level Geography units, exclusive of GEOG 201, 200ABC, 500, 597, 598, and 599. No more than half may be in GEOG 596. Examination Plan II: A total of **46.0 units** are required. At least **24.0 units** must be from 200 & 500 level Geography units, exclusive of GEOG 201, 200ABC, 500, 597, 598, and 599. No more than half may be in GEOG 596. The core courses must be passed with a grade of ‘B’ or better with the exception of GEOG 200A and GEOG 201, which must be passed satisfactorily. The M.A. through the Examination Plan II is a terminal degree (no continuation to the Ph.D.)*

CORE COURSE REQUIREMENTS (24.0 Units)			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
GEOG 200A	Introduction to Geographic Research	4.0	
GEOG 200B	Introduction to Geographic Research	2.0	
GEOG 200C	Introduction to Geographic Research	4.0	
GEOG 201*	Seminar in Geography	2.0	
GEOG 210A	Analytical Methods in Geography I	4.0	
GEOG 210B	Analytical Methods in Geography II	4.0	
GEOG 210C	Analytical Methods in Geography III	4.0	

* GEOG 201 is required every quarter it is offered

** ELECTIVE COURSES (10.0 units for Plan I, 22.0 units for Plan II)			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE

** Courses outside the department are not accepted for this requirement without the approval of the student's faculty advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies.

MASTER'S COMMITTEE

The Master's Committee consists of at least three UC Academic Senate members, with a tenure-track faculty member from the student's major (home) department serving as chair or co-chair. At least two members of every committee must be tenure-track faculty. The majority of the three members shall be from the student's UCSB major (home) department. The thesis requires the signatures of all members of the committee, as nominated on Master's Form I.

CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT

Thesis Plan I:

Students are expected to write and defend an original M.A. thesis. Required coursework must be completed by the end of the quarter in which the thesis is submitted. The student's Master's Committee supervises the thesis research and certifies the completion of required coursework.

Examination Plan II:

Students have to pass a Comprehensive Examination, conducted by the student's advisor and examination committee. The scope and structure of the exam shall be determined by the advisor, the committee, and the student. A student who fails to pass the examination, may try once more without penalty, taking the retest during the quarter following the failure or at the next available opportunity thereafter. Comprehensive Exam Date (mm/dd/yy): _____

M.A. Committee: Chair: _____ COI Completed(mm/dd/yy)_____

Member: _____

Member: _____

M.A. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED: _____
Quarter/Year

DEPT GRADUATE ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____
Print Name & Sign

FOR GRADUATE DIVISION USE ONLY

Admission status	
Residence requirement-minimum 3 quarters (<i>verify departmental requirement</i>)	
Required units completed	
Language requirement Satisfied (<i>if required</i>)	
No grades of I, NR, or NG	
3.0 or better GPA overall	
Registered quarter of degree or Filing Fee LOA: _____	
Master's Form I / COI and committee entered	
Master's Thesis date received (<i>signature page/e-filed and entered in SReg</i>): _____	
Master's Thesis Submission Fee: _____	

ProQuest ID _____	Permission Ltrs uploaded?	
Master's Degree Awarded (<i>mm/dd/yy</i>)		