

UVM Geography Department – Learning Outcomes

Topical Area	00 Level	100 Level	200 Level
Geographical / scholarly approaches to contemporary problems	Gain exposure to geographic perspectives on fundamental processes/phenomena Identify sources of understanding/knowledge Develop familiarity with approaches to critiquing existing knowledge	Develop more sophisticated understanding of processes over space and time Draw on multiple fields of knowledge to analyze geographic phenomena Begin to formulate original and integrated analyses and critiques	Identify key problems or gaps in existing geographic research or thought Critically engage with and contribute to the production of knowledge Critically review scholarly literature and use it in formulation of original research
Breadth of the discipline	Identify where the class lies within the scope of the discipline	Understand scope and breadth of a subfield of the discipline	Deepen understanding of subfield and explore cutting edge/emerging themes in subfield
Concepts	Introduce fundamental vocabulary and concepts appropriate to the field	Build upon existing content and vocabulary/build conceptual depth	Deepen exposure to advanced concepts and knowledge
Arguments	Examine basic structure of an argument in geography	Develop understanding of distinctions and connections between the theoretical and the empirical Formulate answerable research questions /How are research questions framed?	Deepen ability to connect theory with experience and observation through formulation and conduct of independent research Demonstrate how insights gained from critical evaluation contribute to or challenge existing knowledge
Methods	Explore methods used in discipline (quantitative, qualitative, mapping)	Survey a variety of research methods and practice Practice methods employed in subdiscipline	Identify methods appropriate to original research questions and apply acquired skills and knowledge to complete research
Learning and Communication	Identify personal learning styles, develop organizational skills and hone study strategies Read for content and clearly communicate understanding	Develop more sophisticated communication skills in writing, oral presentation and class discussion	Practice professional conduct of communication through written documents and oral presentations Develop leadership role in discussion and learning