

## **Application: BA, Honours Geography**

### **I. Instructions and Required Materials**

Students applying to complete a BA, Honours Geography, will need to complete an application, statement of interests, and portfolio for consideration. The departmental Honours Assessment Committee (HAC) will then review the materials and make its recommendations regarding the status of the application, potential advisor, and requirements to still be met prior to completion of Honours degree.

Students should apply to the program when they have completed 90 credits of coursework, and a GPA of at least 3.3. Please note that upon degree completion, the cumulative GPA *must* be at least 3.33. Students with GPAs lower than 3.33 at time of application will be assessed on the basis, in part, of their ability in the time left in their program to meet the GPA requirement in time for graduation.

Students applying earlier may be admitted on a conditional basis. It is strongly encouraged that students apply as soon as they have completed 90 credits, as this allows the department and the Honours advisor to work with the student as they complete the rest of their Honours requirements. This also allows sufficient time for Honours project planning.

### **II. Requirements for Honours (BA) Designation, Upon Degree Completion**

1. Cumulative GPA of 3.33
2. Completion of 132 credits or more
3. 12 upper-level credits in a single related breadth field (e.g. History, Biology, Chemistry, Sociology, etc.). Please speak with department head if completing breadth field in Mathematics, Communications, Philosophy, Political Science, or in the Health Sciences prior to application.
4. Geography 354: Approaches in Human Geography
5. Geography 492: Honours Research Project.

*Students should consult the UFV Academic calendar for more information on degree requirements, including those for concentrations within the BA.*

### **III. Honours Project**

As a requirement for degree completion with an Honours designation, BA, Geography students are required to complete an original honours project. The project will be designed in conjunction with the student's supervisor, and the proposal, data collection, analysis, and written component will be completed over the course of one to two semesters. Data collection and analysis will be completed either as part of laboratory work or field study, or as part of a . Students will work with their Honours supervisor to identify the best approach for planning and scheduling their project. The results of the research will be compiled during the completion of Geography 492, and will be presented to the department and/or to a conference at the conclusion of the course.

### **IV. Application and Portfolio**

A portfolio of previously work, completed at UFV, another university or college, or through paid employment and/or volunteer experience, is required as part of the application process. The

portfolio enables the departmental Honours Assessment Committee to assess the student's progress thus far, and to help, if necessary, provides a tool with which the Honours committee can identify a potential Honours supervisor for the student.

### Contents of the Portfolio

In a binder of no more than 1/2", include the following materials:

1. Title page, including student name, number, date of application, and contact information
2. Table of contents
3. **Applicant Information Form** (included in package here)
4. **Checklist of Completed Coursework, Research, and Related Employment or Volunteer Work** (included in package here)
5. A **resume** or **curricula vita** (an academic resume)
6. An unofficial or official copy of your UFV **transcript**
7. **Statement of Interest** and/ or research plan (300-500 words) (details included in package here)
8. A representative selection of completed and graded\* coursework, including each of the following materials, completed for Geography courses numbered 201 and higher:
  - a. At least one field trip or lab report for a physical geography course (can include Geography 452 or 470);
  - b. At least one written assignment from GEOG 140, 240, 241, or 242;
  - c. At least one written assignment from an upper-level Geography course;
  - d. At least one written assignment in your concentration area (if applicable).
  - e. Materials in portfolio should demonstrate competency in multiple areas of geography (e.g. human and physical, GIS, etc.). Please ensure that the assignments submitted as part of portfolio are from courses in more than one sub-field of geography.
9. Any additional materials that a student feels would best demonstrate their abilities in their field of study, including
  - a. Course essays or projects\* from breadth program in the Arts or Sciences,
  - b. Work completed during paid employment or as a volunteer

*\*If you are missing graded copies of some of the assignments that you would like to include, submit instead clean (ungraded) copies.*

## V. Submitting Your Application

Please submit application materials together to the Geography Department Assistant Nicole Klassen (*nee* Levinsky), in A407D. Should you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact the Geography department chair.

## UFV Geography Honours Program Applicant Information Form (BA)

*Students pursuing a BSc, Honours Physical Geography should use the BSc form.*

**Date of Application (Day/ Mo/ Yr):**

**Student Number:**

**Student Name:**

### Contact Information

Address:

Phone:

Email:

### Degree Information

Credits Completed Thus Far:

Cumulative GPA to Date:

Anticipated Degree Completion Date (if known):

Degree Pursuing:

Please list all major and minor fields:

Please list any and all concentrations under completion as part of your BA:

Have you met with an Arts Advisor as part of planning your degree?  Yes  No

*If you have not already met with an Arts Advisor, please do so as soon as possible, so as to establish a file required for graduation.*

### Supervisor Information

Have you met with a faculty member that has agreed to serve as your Honours supervisor?

Yes  No

If so, please have faculty member sign-off on your application below:

Supervisor (Tentative) Signature	Date

## UFV Geography Honours Program Checklist of Completed Coursework, Research, and Related Work and Volunteer Experience (BA)

Student Name:

### Completed Coursework

#### 100-, 200-level Geography **Term Completed** **Grade**

*(Indicate term, year. If not completed, leave blank.)*

Geography 101 F W S YR:

Geography 102 F W S YR:

Geography 116 F W S YR:

Geography 140 F W S YR:

Geography 201 F W S YR:

Geography 202 F W S YR:

Geography 241 F W S YR:

Geography 242 F W S YR:

Geography 253 F W S YR:

#### 300-, 400-level Geography **Term Completed** **Grade**

Geography 352 F W S YR:

Geography 354 F W S YR:

Geography 433 F W S YR:

Geography 452 or 470 F W S YR:

--300 or 400-level **Physical** Geography requirement:

**Course:** F W S YR:

--300 or 400-level **Human** Geography requirement:

**Course:** F W S YR:

Additional upper-division geography—please specify course number and title

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Total Geography Credits:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Requirements from Outside of Geography

The BA, Honours Geography, also requires the completion of a breadth requirement—12 credits of upper-level coursework in a single related field (Biology, History, Mathematics, Sociology, etc.). Please identify courses below.

### Breadth Requirement

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

**Course:**

F W S YR:

**Grade:**

### **Research, Employment and Volunteer Experience**

Have you pursued a research project, either as part of a paid or a volunteer experience, which is geographic in nature? If so, please describe the project below. You may include this information in a separate document if you prefer.

Applicant Signature	Date

## **UFV Geography Honours Program Statement of Interests (BA)**

Each Honours student is assigned an Honours supervisor who in turn will help the student progress through his or her program. The supervisor also acts as the instructor for Geography 492, Honours Project. In order to help the department match a supervisor with an Honours applicant, it is necessary to have some understanding of the applicant's own interests. If you have already approached an instructor about serving as your supervisor, and this instructor has agreed to do so, please note this below.

Please include in your portfolio a typed statement of between 300 and 500 words as to which areas of geography in which you are most interested in pursuing additional coursework and research, and why. You may change your research interests as you move along in your program; in this case, you or the department may select a supervisor closer to your interests. If you have a specific issue or topic that you would like to develop as your Honours Project for Geography 492, include that as well.