GEOLGY AND GEOPHYSICS, B.A.

ADVISING AND CAREERS

ADVISING

Contact the Department of Geoscience for general information about advising.

Philip Brown, undergraduate advisor in the major: economic geology, mineralogy, geochemistry
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Kurt Feigl, undergraduate advisor in the major: tectonic applications of geodesy
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CAREERS

More than half of all professional geologists and geophysicists work in hydrogeology or the petroleum and mining industries. Such jobs involve an unusual breadth of training and personal adaptability, and the M.S. degree is generally required. About one fifth of all geoscientists work in state and federal geological surveys, and in government research activities such as oceanographic programs. These positions largely involve problems in geologic mapping, mineral resources, groundwater, and engineering. Geophysics offers opportunities in earthquake studies, seismic verification of nuclear test bans, and crustal rock characterization techniques for waste disposal and groundwater modeling. Many geology students continue on to obtain a Ph.D. degree and become faculty members at a college or university. A geology and geophysics major is also appropriate for those interested in careers in elementary or secondary education, environmental policy, or environmental law. Faculty advisors can provide additional information on career opportunities.

The College of Letters & Science encourages majors to begin working on their career exploration and preparation soon after arriving on campus. Our department partners with SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science. L&S graduates are in high demand by employers and graduate programs. It is important that students are career ready at the time of graduation, and we are committed to their success.

L&S CAREER RESOURCES

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (https://successworks.wisc.edu/) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

- SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/)
- Set up a career advising appointment (https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/)
- Enroll in a Career Course (https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/) - a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  - INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  - INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/)
- Activate your Handshake account (https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students
- Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students’ lives (https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/)