Geology is the study of the Earth using field and laboratory research to understand the physical, chemical and biological processes that have shaped the planet over time and how these processes affect life on the planet.
GEOLOGY
Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts

Program Choices

Students can pursue a bachelor of science or a bachelor of arts. Students in both programs will acquire a solid foundation in the earth and environmental sciences through classroom instruction, laboratory work and fieldwork, and will be provided with opportunities for undergraduate research. Students aiming for graduate school in geosciences are encouraged to complete a BS. The BA degree requires slightly fewer credit hours than the BS degree to allow students sufficient flexibility for electives outside the major to pursue a double major or to complete courses required to continue in law, medicine or education.

Courses include:

- Coastal Processes and Geomorphology
- Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology
- Field Methods
- Nanogeoscience and Technology
- Planetary Geology
- Remote Sensing and GIS
- Structural Geology
- Climate Change: Oceans to Atmosphere
- Vertebrate Paleontology and Taphonomy

Career Options

Geology graduates go on to further academic study at advanced levels and to careers in the private sector, government/public service and nonprofit organizations. Temple alumni have found employment with NASA, the U.S. Geological Survey, British Petroleum, and numerous environmental and engineering consulting firms. Graduates also conduct research and teach at prestigious universities. Opportunities for international travel and employment are also quite common.

Faculty Contacts

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Research Opportunities

Real-world, hands-on research means students learn the latest scientific techniques, from the necessary basics to high-tech analysis to potential scientific breakthroughs. Geology students gain exposure to the study of minerals, groundwater, geochemistry, and igneous and metamorphic geology; the use of computers and remote sensing in geology and paleontology; and the interpretation of Earth history through the study of sedimentary deposits. The capstone experience for the major includes structural geology and a five- to six-week summer course designed to train students in geological field methods.