

GEOPHYSICS, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Geophysics minor provides the opportunity for students from outside the geosciences to apply the physics, quantitative, and technical skills they are developing in their major program to the geophysical aspects of Earth science, including seismology, volcanology, natural hazards, environmental geophysics, and petroleum and mineral exploration. For students majoring in Geosciences, the completion of the minor will strengthen their physics/quantitative background and develop links between theory and application for these technical and quantitative skills. The minor will prepare students for graduate programs in geophysics and/or employment opportunities in the environmental and exploration industries.

What is Geophysics?

Geophysics is the application of physics to study of Earth (and other planetary bodies). The field is broadly focused on combining physics, mathematics, computation, and geology to investigate Earth's interior and dynamics, to understand and help mitigate natural hazards, and to explore for natural resources such as water, oil, gas, and minerals.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You are curious about the mechanics of earthquakes, volcanism, and other natural hazards.
- You are interested in the physical processes that drive plate tectonics.
- You want to learn more about how geophysics is used to study the inaccessible parts of Earth (and other planets).
- You would like to apply your physics, math, and computer skills to investigate natural hazards and/or to develop a broad understanding of how the Earth works.