**Geography**

**Objectives**  
Departmental Self Study - 2003, Departmental Response to External Reviewers  
Comments-2004, Department Goals and Objectives statement 2004, Department Mission Statement  

Undergraduate Student Learning Objectives: Geographers utilize a variety of research methods and tools to study the spatial processes, patterns and problems found in various regions from the local to the international level. To this end, students in the geography program are expected to demonstrate a basic knowledge of geographic concepts and factual information through the investigation of a spatial problem in at least one upper division course. Students in the geography program are also expected to demonstrate basic skills including an ability to clearly express in written and oral form the analytical competencies necessary to solve spatial problems. The department also strongly encourages all majors to develop the necessary technological skills in the fundamental geographic techniques of spatial assessment and visual representation.

**Mission**  
Departmental Self Study 2003 Departmental Goals and Objectives Statement- 2004,  
Department Mission Statement  
Goals of the Geography Department  
1. Provide a sound undergraduate Geography major with concentrations in Urban Planning, Earth Science/Environmental Studies, and in Geographic Information Science, as well as courses that support the Social Studies Certification in Education,  
2. Continue to provide both day and Evening University opportunities for those who want to complete the B.A. in Geography,  
3. Support the General Education Curriculum of the College and University by providing courses in the natural and social sciences and in global studies that allow students to see the world about them and to help them make intellectual sense of it,  
4. Participate in College/University programs, such as Archaeology, Freshman Seminars, Honors, International Studies, and Residential College,  
5. Continue to foster our student-centered approach to learning through curricular and extra-curricular activities, such as the GTU Honor Society, Geography Club, Geography Bowl Team, and the Harriett Elliot Lecture Series,  
6. Provide high-quality Master’s in Applied Geography and Post-baccalaureate Certificate programs in Geographic Information Science and Urban Economic Development,  
7. Develop a nationally-recognized Ph.D. program,
8. Provide students at all levels knowledge-based professional internships, field experiences, and faculty/student research collaboration opportunities,

9. Foster research partnerships with allied programs across the campus,

10. Expand distance-learning opportunities through more Internet and blended course offerings,

11. Develop and/or maintain state-of-the-art research facilities in GIScience, Geomorphology, and Urban/transportation Planning in support of faculty and graduate student research,

12. Produce high quality scholarship both applied and theoretical in nature that will give our department a respected voice in the national and international conversation that is the discipline of geography, and

13. Foster the development of research and contract grants with national agencies and organizations, as well as with local and regional agencies and businesses.

SACS: Geographers utilize a variety of research methods and tools to study the spatial processes, patterns and problems found in various regions from the local to the international level. To this end, students in the geography program are expected to demonstrate a basic knowledge of geographic concepts and factual information through the investigation of a spatial problem in at least one upper division course. Students in the geography program are also expected to demonstrate basic skills including an ability to clearly express in written and oral form the analytical competencies necessary to solve spatial problems. The department also strongly encourages all majors to develop the necessary technological skills in the fundamental geographic techniques of spatial assessment and visual representation.