

YukonU Program Planning Guide

School of Science



Diploma Earth Sciences - 2025

Instructions for Use

This planning guide is to assist you in selecting courses each term. Read carefully, as some courses are only offered in one term/year, and some are offered in multiple terms/years.

***The recommended sequencing plan and note section in this guide will be beneficial in helping you select courses.**

Refer to your program page on the main website under programs/courses for a more thorough description of each course.

A glossary (description) of common words and phrases used in this guide, can be found on the last page.

Graduation Requirements and Yukon First Nations Core Competency

Successful completion of the Earth Sciences diploma requires the completion of 63 credits of program coursework with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students who decide to leave the program after the first year will be awarded a Science Certificate provided they have completed 30 credits of coursework and fulfilled all certificate requirements as outlined on the [Science certificate website](#).

Yukon First Nations Core Competency

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, students are required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations.

Students in the Earth Sciences diploma program must complete the Yukon First Nation 101 online workshop to fulfill their core competency requirement.

For details, visit [Yukon First Nations Core Competency](#) on the university website.

First Year Courses ¹			
Course Requirements	Credits	Term	Done
CHEM 110 & 110L	3	Fall	
ENGL 100	3	Fall	
GEO 105 + 105L	3	Fall	
MATH 100	3	Fall	
Science Elective ²	3	Fall	
CHEM 111 & 111L	3	Winter	
COMM 204	3	Winter	
GEO 106 + 106L	3	Winter	
MATH 101	3	Winter	
Science Elective ²	3	Winter	
GEO 107 ³	3	Summer 2024	
Total Credits	33		

Second Year Courses ¹			
Course Requirements	Credits	Term	Done
GEO 200 + 200L	3	Fall	
GEO 206 + 206L	3	Fall	
GEO 208 + 208L	3	Fall	
Science Elective ²	3	Fall	
GEO 250 + 250L	3	Winter	
GEO 211 + 211L	3	Winter	
MATH 200	3	Winter	
Geoscience Elective ⁴	3	Winter	
Science Elective ²	3	Winter	
GEO 216 ³	3	Winter	
Total Credits	30		

Notes

1. Courses can be taken in any order so long as necessary prerequisites are met for each course. Course prerequisites can be found in the course outlines posted for each course on the [Earth Sciences website](#).
2. Science electives: Electives must be selected from the following list of approved courses: ASTR 100, BIOL 101, BIOL 102, CPSC 128, GEOG 101, GEOG 102, GEO 112, PHYS 101, PHYS 102, and SOIL 210. Students interested in pursuing a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.) designation upon completion of their B.Sc. should contact the program coordinator for more information on planning elective courses to best satisfy educational requirements for the designation. Students pursuing transfer to VIU's Earth Science department for B.Sc. completion should take GEOG 101 and GEOG 102 as their first-year science electives.
3. Field courses: GEO 107 and GEO 216 are taught as block field courses in August and late April/early May, respectively. GEO 107 is an 8-day course taught in the Whitehorse area; GEO 216 is a 14-day course taught in conjunction with Vancouver Island University (VIU) on Quadra Island, BC.
4. Geoscience elective: Students must select either GEO 301 (Hydrogeology) or GEO 213 (Geophysics) as their second-year geoscience elective course. Note that selection of GEO 213 requires completion of PHYS 101 and PHYS 102. Whereas PHYS 101 must be completed prior to GEO 213 as a prerequisite, PHYS 102 may be taken in the same semester as GEO 213 as a co-requisite.

Recommended Sequencing Plan

Shown below is a sample sequence of courses for your diploma. If you follow this plan, you should be able to graduate in two years, provided you complete five courses per term. This is just one example of how you could complete the diploma requirements; *other sequences will work as well*. Students already enrolled in the program will continue to follow their established plan of study.

Year 1 Fall	Year 2 Fall
CHEM 110 & 110L	GEOL 200 + GEOL 200L
ENGL 100	GEOL 206 + GEOL 206L
GEOG 101 + 101L	GEOL 208 + GEOL 208L
GEOL 105 + 105L	PHYS 101 + PHYS 101L
MATH 100	
Year 1 Winter	Year 2 Winter
CHEM 111 & 111L	GEOG 250 + GEOG 250L
COMM 204	GEOL 211
GEOG 102 + 102L	GEOL 213 + 213L OR GEOL 301 + 301L
GEOL 106 + 106L	MATH 200
MATH 101	PHYS 102 + PHYS 102L
GEOL 107 (August)	GEOL 216 (late April – May)

Student Responsibility

You are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of your registration and for determining the requirements of your program. Always read course descriptions before you register to determine if you have the necessary prerequisites and pay attention to notes on mutually exclusive and cross-listed courses (pairs of courses in which credit will be awarded for only one).

Program Advising

Mary Samolczyk, Earth Sciences program coordinator
867-456-6958
msamolczyk@yukonu.ca

or

School of Science
867-668-8887
science@yukonu.ca

Common Words and Phrases

- A **Credit** is the unit of weight for university courses and range from 1 to 15 credits.
- **Grade Point Average (GPA)** is a representation of academic achievement produced by dividing the total number of grade points earned over a period, usually a semester, divided by the number of courses or credits taken. See page 18 of the Academic Regulations for a fuller explanation.
- **Highly Recommended Course** is a course that would be beneficial to your learning and should be take either before or during your studies.
- **Prerequisite** is a course that you must complete with a satisfactory grade before enrolling in a subsequent course.
- A **Semester** is a portion of an academic year, during which an educational institution holds classes. Many people use the word 'term' interchangeably. We have three semesters per year. (Fall, Winter & Spring/Summer – see below)
*Note: not all programs use three (3) terms as part of their study schedule – most programs at YukonU use only the Fall & Winter term.
- **Recommended Sequencing Plan** shows a program's courses arranged according to year and semester (Fall, Winter, Spring) and are recommended to be taken in this order to complete a certificate, diploma or degree.
- **Fields of Study**
 - **Humanities** is the study of unique products of human culture and expression and include history, literature, language, philosophy, the visual arts, theatre, dance, and music.
 - **Social Science**, sometimes called the behavioural sciences, is the branch of academic study that looks at human activity in societies and seeks to understand the causes and consequences of social phenomena. Many social sciences have a social justice agenda in that they also seek to find and offer solutions to social problems. Social science disciplines include anthropology, criminology, economics, political science, sociology, psychology, and women and gender studies.
 - **Science** deal with the study of natural phenomena through observation, experimentation and use of scientific methods and include study in fields such as astronomy, biology, chemistry, mathematics environmental sciences and physics.
- **Semester Starts and Ends**
 - Fall = Either Late August or early September through December
 - Winter = Early January through April (Sometimes into early May)
 - Spring/Summer = May through August

Note: Your program area determines terms/semester exact dates.

Program Planning Guide Revisions

Date Created	Date Revised	Section Revised
March 2020		
	April 2021	Program Advising,