



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
CURRENT PROGRAM TITLE:	Geography (M.S.)
CIP CODE:	45.0702
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Geography
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Graduate School

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Dennis D. Hedge

3/27/2019

Vice President of Academic Affairs or
President of the University

Date

1. This modification addresses a change in:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Add Option C |

2. Effective date of change: 2019-2020 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level: Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category: Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name:

6. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
GEOG	710	Evolution of Geographic Thought	3	GEOG	710	Evolution of Geographic Thought	3
GEOG	714	Research and Writing	3	GEOG	714	Research and Writing	3
<i>Select one of the following options:</i>				<i>Select one of the following options:</i>			
<i>Option A: Thesis</i>				<i>Option A: Thesis</i>			
GEOG	798	Thesis	5-10	GEOG	798	Thesis	5-10
		Electives	14-19			Electives	14-19
<i>Option B: Research/Design Paper</i>				<i>Option B: Research/Design Paper</i>			
GEOG	788	Research Paper in Geography	2-5	GEOG	788	Research Paper in Geography	2-5
		Electives	21-24			Electives	21-24
<i>Option C: Coursework Only</i>				<i>Option C: Coursework Only</i>			
						Electives	30
Total number of hours required for major				Total number of hours required for major			

<i>Existing Curriculum</i>				<i>Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)</i>			
Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
		Option A	30			Option A	30
		Option B	32			Option B	32
						Option C	36
		Total number of hours required for degree				Total number of hours required for degree	
		Option A	30			Option A	30
		Option B	32			Option B	32
						Option C	36

7. Explanation of the Change:

The purpose of this change is to add Option C: Coursework Only to the to the existing degree options of Options A: Thesis and B: Research/Design Paper, which increasingly have become a less desirable fit for many students. As the field of Geography evolves an Option C would better address many of the changes in the workforce and satisfy the needs of many students.