**Geology**

**Description of Major**
The geology curriculum serves those interested in a broader knowledge of their natural environment and the geological sciences as part of their liberal arts education; provides a firm foundation in geology, related sciences and mathematics for students interested in the investigation and solution of geologic problems; prepares students for graduate study in the geosciences and related areas; provides the necessary background in earth science for those who plan to teach in this field at the secondary level; and serves those in other professional or interdisciplinary programs who need geology as a related science.

**Skills**
A liberal arts education and study in a particular major will lead to the acquisition of a group of skills which enable one to solve problems, communicate effectively, and perform complicated tasks. These skills are essential in any career. The following is a list of important and commonly agreed upon career skills identified by UMM geology faculty as a part of the project to Improve Public Understanding of Liberal Learning (IMPULL). The skills are those which all or most students studying geology are likely to acquire through classroom instruction, co-curricular or extra-curricular activities.

**Leadership/Management Skills:**
- applying data
- making commitments to others and following through
- analyzing
- identifying priorities and parameters

**Communication/Writing Skills:**
- comprehending written material
- writing factual material clearly and concisely
- describing objects or events with a minimum of factual errors
- reporting accurately

**Instructing/Educational Skills:**
- explaining

**Research/Analytical Skills:**
- compiling and selecting information
- applying information creatively to solve specific problems
- perceiving and defining cause and effect relationships
- cataloging information
- reading

**Artistic/Creative Skills:**
- sensitivity to and appreciation of beauty in the environment
- drafting/mechanical drawing
- mapping

**Technical/Manual Skills:**
- using tools
- being physically active
- doing detailed and accurate work

**Additional Skills, or Skills Peculiar to the Geology Discipline:**
- the ability to look at the earth in a broad perspective
- an appreciation of time and space
- an awareness of the environment

**Jobs Obtained by UMM Geology Graduates**
Studies conducted by the UMM Career Center have shown that graduates obtain jobs that are both related to their major and jobs that may not be formally related to the major. Over 64% of the geology graduates from 1964-1998 said their job was in the same field or related to their undergraduate major. Other studies have shown that liberal arts graduates find employment that makes use of their skills, special knowledge, values, and interests, even though the employment field may not be related to their academic major. Listed below are some jobs obtained by UMM geology graduates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accountant</th>
<th>Food Scientist</th>
<th>Mortgage Assistant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Army Reserve Conservation/Mining</td>
<td>Futures Trader</td>
<td>Navigator</td>
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There are many occupations that do not require a specific undergraduate major; they are often learned as a result of on-the-job training rather than prior education. What is sought among prospective employees is the development of certain skills and abilities that can be developed not only through an academic major but through courses taken as part of one's general education, and through internships, directed studies, tutorials, seminars, study abroad, work-study and summer employment, and volunteer experiences.

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