NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM(S):
GEOGRAPHY HONORS PROGRAM

EXPLAIN CHANGE(S) TO DEGREE PROGRAM:
No changes are being made to the Geography major except for Departmental Honors.

The Geography Honors program will no longer require an honors examination, and graduating with honors will be possible with a grade of A- (was previously A) on the honors thesis (GRG 679H).

Indicate pages in the Undergraduate Catalog where changes will be made:
p. 308

GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S):
The new requirements reflect the new plus-minus grading system and attempt to replicate the same stringency that was built into the previous requirements.

The current requirements for graduation with honors in geography are overly stringent and relaxing them will encourage students to try to graduate with honors, thereby increasing student motivation to excel in the program.

SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE(S):
Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? If yes, then how?
No.

Will this proposal change the number of required hours for degree completion? If yes, please explain.
No.

Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, please explain.
No.
Please include a draft of the catalog copy on an attached page. The draft should be based on the text of the current catalog available at http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/pages/catalog_chgs/catcopy.html.

CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS FOR EARNING DEPARTMENTAL HONORS FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN GEOGRAPHY IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER OF THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2010-2012

On page 308, under the heading ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, in the HONORS subsection of the College of Liberal Arts chapter of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2008-2010, make the following changes:

Geography Honors Program

Majors who plan to seek special honors in geography should apply to the honors adviser for admission to the honors program no later than two semesters before they expect to graduate. A University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in geography of at least 3.50 are required for admission.

The requirements for graduation with special honors are (1) Geography 679H, Honors Tutorial Course, with a grade of at least A- in each half; (2) a comprehensive honors examination with a grade of A; (3) a University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average of at least 3.50 in the coursework required for the major and for honors; and (4) completion in residence at the University of at least sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.