Complement your graduate degree with an in-demand professional skill --- consider pursuing the GIS certificate. Growth in geographical data, from cell phones, satellites, big data and Google Maps, has increased job market demand for people trained with spatial analysis skills. This job growth is expected to continue: http://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2013/03/new-cartographers.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Geographic Information Science (certificate)

The geographic information sciences certificate program teaches students the theoretical aspects of GIS, the technical side of the discipline, and applications of the science. Students learn how to analyze policy problems and research questions from a spatial lens, acquire and analyze remotely sensed data, and model spatial phenomenon.

Skills in geographic information science and geospatial data analytics offer students market-ready tools for turning novel sources of spatial data into informed practice and prepare students to address issues such as climate change, population growth and aging and active transportation. The certificate program enables ASU graduate students from all disciplines and GIS professionals to learn how to apply GIS concepts and technology to build invaluable problem-solving skills.

The certificate is intended as either a specialization within an existing master's degree or a stand-alone nondegree program for practicing professionals with a previously earned graduate degree.

At a Glance

- College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe campus
Degree Requirements

16 credit hours including the required capstone course (GPH 591 or GIS 591)

a capstone seminar (1)
three required courses (9)
two elective courses (6)

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they are currently pursuing a master's degree at ASU or have earned a master's degree and are currently practicing professionals.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The personal statement must be a one-page letter describing the applicant's overall objective for the GIS certificate program. It should clearly state the applicant's interest in GIS and provide evidence that the certificate will enhance the applicant's education or current employment.

For currently practicing professionals, a final transcript from the master's degree-granting institution must be submitted.

Contact Information