Geographic Information Science (Graduate Certificate)

Complement your graduate degree with the in-demand professional skills you gain through this certificate program. Growth in geographical data, from cell phones, satellites, big data and Google Maps, has increased market demand for people trained with spatial analysis skills. This growth is expected to continue at a higher than average pace: 

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Geographic Information Science (certificate)
Geographic information scientists have the ability to not only map out information, but to provide a deeper understanding of the world and the interactions around us. Combining the disciplines of computer science, statistics and geography, geographic information sciences can help to answer the what, where, why and how for questions that span areas of interest in many industries.

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 cumulative GPA of 3.00 (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 must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the USA on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission be considered for admission to this certificate program.
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.

Currently practicing professionals must submit a final transcript from the master's degree-granting institution.

Contact Information

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