Geographic Information Systems, MAS

LAGISMAS

Earn your professional degree in one year with the Master of Advanced Study in geographic information systems. The job market in GIS is red-hot; our students have consistently landed rewarding positions in the Phoenix area and throughout the world. The MAS-GIS is a STEM-designated degree program.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MAS Geographic Information Systems

The MAS in geographic information systems is a compact, one-year nonthesis degree program fostering advanced study in the management and use of GIS technology in public and corporate environments. The degree program meets important educational needs of working professionals and recent college graduates seeking to improve their career standing.

The program provides a comprehensive professional degree that balances work in the theoretical aspects of GIS, the technical side of the discipline, and the applications domain. Students are exposed to cutting-edge technology, with a focus on building invaluable problem-solving skills, and the opportunity to work on real-world GIS projects.

Courses are held in the evenings during the week, so the curriculum is highly adaptable to the work environment, and the master's degree is achievable in a one-year time period. A new group of students begins the program each August, attending evening classes during the fall and spring semesters. Upon completion of the spring semester, students select a capstone project they complete during a summer eight-week session. Final presentations take place in mid-July, and in fewer than 11 months the degree program is complete.

At a Glance

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

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (GPH 693 or GIS 693)

Enrolled students must complete three sequential semesters of coursework:

**First Semester**
Offered during the fall, this semester is composed of six two-credit hour modules that are not transferable.

**Spring Semester**
Students in this semester must complete four three-credit hour courses.

**Final Semester**
Students must complete a three-credit hour GIS internship and a three-credit hour applied project course during the final semester, which is offered in the eight-week summer session.

**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 have earned a bachelor's degree in a related field from a regionally accredited institution or if they demonstrate a minimum of three years related professional experience with a bachelor's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. resume
5. two letters of recommendation
6. 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.
Applicants must prepare a formal, written personal statement regarding relevant academic experience, professional experience and overall interest in GIS.

Letters of recommendation must be from two people who can attest to the applicant's academic and professional achievements. Letters can be from any combination of current or former instructors, supervisors or professionals currently employed within the GIS or related discipline.

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