Duluth Campus

Geographic Information Science Certificate

Geography & Philosophy

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

- Program Type: Undergraduate credit certificate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 19
- Degree: Geographic Information Science Certificate

The certificate in Geographic Information Science has as its core the study and use of geographic information systems (GIS). Central to this program are the theoretical and applied fundamentals of the collection, management, analysis and representation of spatial data. The program builds on this core by exploring both traditional and novel methods for geo-visualization. Methods include teaching about various GIS and remote sensing technologies used to collect and analyze spatial data and how to use these technologies, critically discussing the implications of geo-spatial technologies on individuals and society, demonstrating how geo-spatial technologies are used effectively in urban and regional planning processes; and by exploration of applications of GIS to environmental, resource and policy/management issues.

The five-course series offers students the opportunity to expand their knowledge and expertise in the area of Geographic Information Science (GISci). Participants in the certificate will receive the theoretical and technical education needed to acquire, manage and critically analyze and represent geo-referenced data. The program offers basic and advanced courses in map design and geo-visualization, geographic information systems, remote sensing and geo-spatial technologies in general.

This certificate is not eligible for financial aid.

Students pursuing the GISci major or minor are not eligible for the GISci certificate program.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

A full understanding of basic computer use is expected.
A cumulative U of MN GPA of at least 2.00 is required for admission.

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, grants degrees from the University of Minnesota. Requirements for an undergraduate degree from University of Minnesota Duluth include the following:

1. Students must meet all course and credit requirements of the departments and colleges or schools in which they are enrolled including an advanced writing course. Students seeking two degrees must fulfill the requirements of both degrees. However, two degrees cannot be awarded for the same major.
2. Students must complete all requirements of the Liberal Education Program.
3. Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credits.
4. At least 30 of the last 60 degree credits earned immediately before graduation must be awarded by UMD.
5. Students must complete at least half of their courses at the 3xxx-level and higher at UMD. Study-abroad credits earned through courses taught by UM faculty and at institutions with which UMD has international exchange programs may be used to fulfill this requirement.
6. If a minor is required, students must take at least three upper division credits in their minor field from UMD.
7. The minimum cumulative UM GPA required for graduation will be 2.00 and will include only University of Minnesota coursework. A minimum UM GPA of 2.00 is required in each UMD undergraduate major and minor. No academic unit may impose higher grade point standards to graduate.
8. Diploma, transcripts, and certification will be withheld until all financial obligations to the University have been met.

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Program Requirements

Required Courses (11 cr)

GIS 2552 - Mapping Our World [LOGIC & QR] (3.0 cr)
GIS 3563 - Geographic Information Science I: Theory and Analysis (4.0 cr)
GIS 3564 - Geographic Information Science II: Applied GIS (4.0 cr)

Electives (8 cr)

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

- GIS 3580 - Earth Imagery (4.0 cr)
- GIS 4533 - Distributed Geographic Information Services: Mobile and Web Based Solutions (4.0 cr)
- GIS 4585 - Advanced GIS Analytics (4.0 cr)
- GIS 5571 - Geographic Information Science in Urban Analysis (4.0 cr)
- GIS 5572 - Environmental Application of GIS (4.0 cr)
- GIS 5573 - GIScience in Regional Sustainability Applications (4.0 cr)
- GIS 5581 - Digital Image Processing and Analysis (4.0 cr)

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