This is a named option within the Cartography/GIS M.S. program. This is an accelerated master's program that provides a broad foundation in the theory and application of mapping and geographic information sciences. Graduates of this program will be well prepared for positions as GIS analysts in government agencies, planning organizations, environmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private industry. Completion of this accelerated program requires 32 credits and does not include a thesis. Learn more.

**ADMISSIONS**

The Graduate School sets minimum requirements for admissions. Academic program admission requirements are often more rigorous than those set by the Graduate School. Please check the program's website for details on how to apply.

This program accepts applications for the FALL and SPRING semesters. Please visit the program website for more information on deadlines.

**GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online.

**FUNDING**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

Students in the GIS Development and Accelerated/Non-Thesis named options are not permitted to accept graduate assistantships or other appointments that would result in a tuition waiver and cannot enroll in other graduate programs nor take courses outside the prescribed curriculum.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements, in addition to the program requirements listed below.

**NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS**

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mode of Instruction Definitions**

- **Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.
- **Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

- **Minimum Credit Requirement:** 30 credits
- **Minimum Residence Credit Requirement:** 16 credits
- **Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement:** Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide.
- **Overall Graduate GPA Requirement:** 3.00 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements
The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations
No formal examination is required.

Language Requirements
No language requirement.

REQUIRED COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 370</td>
<td>Introduction to Cartography (Core course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 377</td>
<td>An Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (Core course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 378</td>
<td>Introduction to Geocomputing (Core course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 778</td>
<td>Practicum in GIS Development (Core course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives
Choose four of the following: 14-16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 560</td>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Methods (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 572</td>
<td>Graphic Design in Cartography (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 574</td>
<td>Geospatial Database Design and Development (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 575</td>
<td>Interactive Cartography &amp; Geovisualization (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 576</td>
<td>Geospatial Web and Mobile Programming (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 578</td>
<td>GIS Applications (Elective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 579</td>
<td>GIS and Spatial Analysis (Elective)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 30-32

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES
The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies within the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES

GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK
A Graduate Program Handbook containing all of the program’s policies and requirements is forthcoming from the program.

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 7 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree or earned ten years is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 7 credits of undergraduate graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree or earned ten years is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of graduate coursework as defined above taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION
The Department of Geography expects graduate students to progress through a sequence of benchmarks within prescribed time periods. These benchmarks constitute a reasonable rate of accomplishment for full-time students holding teaching or research appointments. The department recognizes that individual circumstances vary, and not all students progressing toward their academic goals will hit the benchmarks exactly. Thus a student’s progress is considered unsatisfactory only after a period of time elapses following an unmet benchmark. A student not making satisfactory progress is placed on probation. For detailed information about these benchmarks and triggers for probationary status, please see the department’s Criteria for Satisfactory Progress.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
All students are required to conduct a progress report each semester with the program director or manager. Failure to do so will result in a hold being placed on the student’s registration.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
15 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS
For program-specific time constraints, please see Probation Policy above.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES
Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.
Associated Faculty: Lisa Naughton (Department Chair), A-Xing Zhu, Robert Roth, Qunying Huang, and Song Gao.

Staff: Ian Muehlenhaus (GIS Professional Programs Director), Brittney Markle (GIS Professional Programs Manager), and Joel Gruely (GIS Professional Programs Administrative Assistant)