
Information about facilities, supporting faculty and staff, and program requirements for all graduate programs in the department can be found in the Geography (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/) listing in this catalog.

The M.S. (Thesis) in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems provides a broad foundation in the theory and application of mapping and geographic information sciences. Students who earn the M.S. (Thesis) degree are prepared to continue on for the Ph.D. in geography or for positions in government agencies, planning organizations, environmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private industry.

Students apply to the Master of Science in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems through one of the named options:

- GIS Development, M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/cartography-geographic-information-systems-gis-development-ms/)
- Thesis (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/cartography-geographic-information-systems-thesis-ms/)

The department tries to provide support to all incoming graduate students in the form of fellowships, teaching assistantships, or research assistantships. Most forms of financial assistance include eligibility for health insurance coverage and remission of tuition.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

**MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements Detail</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>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.</td>
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**ASSESSMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS**

See Named Options for policy information.

**LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS**

No language requirement.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

Select a Named Option (https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/#NamedOptions) for courses required.

**NAMED OPTIONS**

A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferral. Students pursuing the Master of Science in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems must select one of the following named options:
• CARTOGRAPHY AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS: ACCELERATED/NON-THESIS, M.S. (HTTP://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/GEOGRAPHY/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-MS/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-ACCELERATED-NON-THESIS-MS/)

• CARTOGRAPHY AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS: GIS DEVELOPMENT, M.S. (HTTP://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/GEOGRAPHY/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-MS/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-GIS-DEVELOPMENT-MS/)

• CARTOGRAPHY AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS: THESIS, M.S. (HTTP://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/GRADUATE/GEOGRAPHY/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-MS/CARTOGRAPHY-GEOGRAPHIC-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-THESIS-MS/)

POLICIES

Students should refer to one of the named options for policy information:

• Accelerated/Non-Thesis, M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/cartography-geographic-information-systems-accelerated-non-theses-ms/)

• GIS Development, M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/cartography-geographic-information-systems-gis-development-ms/)

• Thesis (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/geography/cartography-geographic-information-systems-ms/cartography-geographic-information-systems-thesis-ms/)

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.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates, critiques, or elaborates the theories, research methods, and approaches to inquiry or schools of practice in cartography and GIScience.

2. Identifies sources and assembles evidence pertaining to questions or challenges in cartography/GIScience.

3. Demonstrates understanding of cartography/GIScience in a historical, social, or global context.

4. Selects and/or utilizes the most appropriate methodologies and practices.

5. Evaluates or synthesizes information pertaining to questions or challenges in cartography/GIScience.

6. Communicates clearly in ways appropriate to cartography/GIScience.

7. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.

PEOPLE

Faculty:

Department Chair. Joseph Mason


Associate Professors: Holly Gibbs, Asligül Güçmen, Quying Huang, Jenna Loyd, Sarah Moore, Robert Roth, Stephen Young

Assistant Professors: Christian Andresen, Song Gao, Ken Keefover-Ring, Almita Miranda, Jen Rose Smith