



Program Approval Form

For approval of new programs and deletions or modifications to an existing program.

Action Requested:

☐ Create New (SCHEV approval required except for minors and certificates)
☐ Delete Existing
☒ Modify Existing (check all that apply)
☐ Title (SCHEV approval required except for minors, certificates)
☐ **Concentration** (Choose one): ☐ Add ☐ Delete ☐ Modify
☒ Degree Requirements
☐ Admission Standards
☐ Application Requirements
☐ Other Changes: _____

Type (Check one):

☐ B.A. ☐ B.S. ☐ Minor
☐ Undergraduate Certificate
☐ M.A. ☒ M.S. ☐ M.Ed.
☐ Ph.D. ☐ Graduate Certificate
☐ Other: _____

College/School: College of Science **Department:** Geography and Geoinformation Science
Submitted by: _____ **Ext:** 3-4336 **Email:** tleslie@gmu.edu

Effective Term: Fall 2015 **Please note:** For students to be admitted to a new degree, minor, certificate or concentration, the program must be fully approved, entered into Banner, and published in the University Catalog.

Justification: (attach separate document if necessary)

See Attached

Program Title: (Required)

Title must identify subject matter. Do not include name of college/school/dept.

Concentration(s):

Admissions Standards /

Application Requirements:

(Required only if different from those listed in the University Catalog)

Degree Requirements:

Consult University Catalog for models, attach separate document if necessary using track changes for modifications

Courses offered via distance:
(if applicable)

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED:

Existing	New/Modified
Geographic and Cartographic Science	Geographic and Cartographic Science
See Attached	See Attached

Approval Signatures

Department _____ Date _____ College/School _____ Date _____ Provost's Office _____ Date _____
Interdisciplinary Council Use Only

If this program may impact another unit or is in collaboration with another unit at Mason, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

For Graduate Programs Only

Graduate Council Member _____ Provost Office _____ Graduate Council Approval Date _____

For Registrar Office's Use Only: Received _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____ revised 5/5/10

Proposed Program Modifications for MS in Geographic and Cartographic Science
Fall 2015

The purpose of this program modification is to adjust the MS in Geographic and Cartographic Sciences. This program has been very successful, but we seek to adjust two aspects.

- 1) **Modify** Thesis Track to require 15 credits of elective courses from GGS Graduate courses
- 2) **Modify** Thesis Track to require 3 credits of GGS 799 (Thesis)

Rationale: We feel our students, generally, benefit much more from the coursework than they do from additional credit hours spent on thesis work. It also matches the MS in Geoinformatics and Geospatial Intelligence in using 3 credits for the Thesis. Most of our students already choose this extra coursework option, and it clarifies expectations.

- 1) **Modify** Non-Thesis Track to require 24 credits of elective courses from GGS Graduate courses
- 2) **Add** Requirement that Non-Thesis Track for GGS 700 (Comprehensive Exam)

Rationale: The GGS 700 course will insure students are going through a standardized system during the course of their comprehensive exam.

GECA MS *Thesis*

Current

Core: (12 credits)

GGS 553 (Geographic Information Systems)
GGS 560 (Quantitative Methods)
GGS 579 (Remote Sensing)
GGS 689 (Seminar in Geographic Thought)

Elective Coursework

12-15 credits of 500-799 level coursework

Thesis

3 - 6 hours GGS 799

30 credits

GECA MS *Non-Thesis*

Current

Core: (12 credits)

GGS 553 (Geographic Information Systems)
GGS 560 (Quantitative Methods)
GGS 579 (Remote Sensing)
GGS 689 (Seminar in Geographic Thought)

Elective Coursework

24 credits of 500-799 level coursework

36 credits

GECA MS *Thesis*

After Proposed Modifications

Core: (12 credits)

GGS 553
GGS 560
GGS 579
GGS 689

Elective Coursework

15 credits of GGS Graduate level coursework

Thesis

3 hours GGS 799

30 credits

GECA MS *Non-Thesis*

After Proposed Modifications

Core: (12 credits)

GGS 553
GGS 560
GGS 579
GGS 689

Elective Coursework

24 credits of GGS Graduate level coursework

Comprehensive Exam (1-credit)

GGS 700 (Comprehensive Exam)

37 credits
