Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/23/24 4:16 pm

Viewing: **SC-MS-GECA : Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS**

Last approved: 05/17/22 9:23 am

Last edit: 03/07/24 12:15 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages
Using this Program
[Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS](#)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Catalog: 2024-2025

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Master's

Degree Type: Master of Science

Title:

Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS

Banner Title: MS Geograph & Cartographic Sci

Registrar/OAPI Use   Approved
Only – SCHEV
Status

Registrar's Office
Use Only –
Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SCHEV
Letter

Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SACSCOC
Status

In Workflow

1. **GGS Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Assistant Dean
4. Assoc Provost-Graduate
5. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 03/15/24 11:34 am Nathan Burtch (nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. Nov 8, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Mar 8, 2018 by pchampan
3. Mar 8, 2018 by pchampan
4. Nov 9, 2020 by Timothy Leslie (tleslie)
5. Feb 23, 2021 by jriemen
6. Dec 2, 2021 by Nathan Burtch (nburtch)
7. May 17, 2022 by Tory Sarro (vsarro)

Concentration(s):

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Geography & Geoinformation Science

Jointly Owned Program?   No

Justification

What: Referring applicants to central admissions language and removing extraneous wording.

Why: To make the program more adaptable to changes in university policies.

What: Adding GGS 557 to non-thesis electives

Why: Newly created course fits as a systematic elective

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 30 or 37

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:

          SC-MS-GECA

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Program CIP Code

Admission Requirements:

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Graduate Admissions Policies section of this catalog. : International students and students having earned international degrees should also refer to Admission of International Students for additional requirements.

Eligibility

Applicants and Application RequirementsIn addition to the university-wide requirements, applicants for this master's should have a bachelor's degree in geography, cartography, or a closely related field from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. field. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent. Applicants Applicants without an undergraduate degree in geography may be required to take one course in each of the following: physical geography, human geography, and cartography. All applicants must have a course in statistics.

Application Requirements

To apply for this program, prospective students should submit the George Mason University Admissions Application and its required supplemental documentation, ~~The program also requires~~ two letters of recommendation, ~~recommendation~~ and a statement of interest in the degree.

~~Credit from courses taken at other departments and other universities may be applied to the program with prior approval.~~ GRE scores are not required for admission into this program, but are encouraged if the student is seeking internal funding.

~~To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application.~~

**Program-Specific
Policies:**

Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Transferring Previous Graduate Credit into this Program

Previously earned and relevant graduate credits may be eligible for transfer into this program; details can be found in the Credit by Exam or Transfer section of this catalog.

Secondary Program Options

Students enrolled in this master's program have the option of adding a secondary graduate certificate program. Depending upon the secondary program chosen, many courses may be applicable to both the certificate and the master's. Before adding a secondary program, students are advised to carefully review the Requirements for Graduate Certificates and the Requirements for Master's Degrees in AP.6 Graduate Policies. Faculty advisors should be contacted for further guidance and for graduate certificate program suggestions.

Degree Requirements:

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must complete either 30 graduate credits (with a thesis) or 37 graduate credits (without a thesis). If the non-thesis option is selected, students are required to pass a comprehensive exam.

Core Courses

GGS 551	Cartographic Design	3
GGS 553	Geographic Information Systems	3
GGS 560	Quantitative Methods	3
GGS 579	Remote Sensing	3
GGS 689	Seminar in Geographic Thought and Methodology	3
Total Credits		15

Thesis or Non-thesis Options

Thesis Option

Students selecting the thesis option must complete:

Three credits of		3
GGS 799	Thesis	
Select 12 credits of electives in 500 to 798-level GGS courses. 1		12
Total Credits		15

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Electives should be selected in consultation with an advisor. With departmental approval, up to 9 credits from closely related disciplines may be applied to the degree.

Non-thesis Option

Students selecting the non-thesis option must complete the following:

Choose one Systematic course		3
GGS 505	Transportation Geography	
GGS 507	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
GGS 540	Health Geography	
GGS 544	Military Geography	
GGS 557	Urban Planning	
GGS 615	Economic Geography	
GGS 656	The Hydrosphere	
GGS 657	The Lithosphere	
GGS 670	Introduction to Atmosphere and Weather	
GGS 704	Spatial Demography	
Choose one Regional course		3
GGS 516	Geography of Latin America	
GGS 517	Geography of China	
GGS 518	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	
GGS 526	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia	
GGS 533	Issues in Regional Geography	
GGS 700	Comprehensive Exam	1
Select an additional 15 credits of electives in 500 to 798-level GGS courses. 1		15
Total Credits		22

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Electives should be selected in consultation with an advisor. With departmental approval, up to 9 credits from closely related disciplines may be applied to the degree.

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study:

Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

Courses offered via distance (if applicable):

What is the primary delivery format for the program?

Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

No

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

No

Related Departments

Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in Virginia or elsewhere?

No

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Is this change a simple retitling of an existing program, with no other changes, to any existing program content, curriculum requirements, etc?

No

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral)?

No

Percentage of total credits containing new course content. ("New course content" is defined by SACSCOC as content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructiona level. Do not exclude gen ed credits in calculations for undergraduate programs.)

0%-24%

Does this change include the addition of a distance education or face-to-face method of delivery for this program?

No

Does this change include the addition of a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities be needed?

No

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Additional library/learning resources needed?

No

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program?   No

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Additional Attachments

SCHEV Proposal

Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eschtml%

Key: 211