

Course Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/04/26 10:11 am

Viewing: **GGS 590 : Special Selected Topics in Geography and Geoinformation Science**

Last approved: 04/27/23 5:10 am

Last edit: 02/04/26 10:11 am

Changes proposed by: nburtch

Catalog Pages
referencing this
course

[Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science](#)
[Geography and Geoinformation Science \(GGS\)](#)

Select modification type:

Substantial

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

No

Effective Term: Fall 2026

Subject Code: GGS - Geography & Geoinformation Science Course Number: 590

Bundled Courses:

Is this course replacing another course? No

Equivalent Courses:

In Workflow

1. GGS Chair
2. SC Curriculum Committee
3. SC Assistant Dean
4. Assoc Provost- Graduate
5. Registrar-Courses
6. Banner

Approval Path

1. 02/05/26 10:50 am
Nathan Burtch
(nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. May 18, 2021 by
Tory Sarro (vsarro)
2. Apr 27, 2023 by
Nathan Burtch
(nburtch)

Catalog Title: Special Selected Topics in Geography and Geoinformation Science

Banner Title: Special Topics in GGS Geog

Will section titles vary by semester? Yes

Credits: 3

Schedule Type: Lecture -Repeatable within the Term

Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3

Repeatable: May be repeated within term (RT) **Max Allowable Credits:** 12

Default Grade Mode: Graduate Regular

Recommended Prerequisite(s):

Recommended Corequisite(s):

Required Prerequisite(s) / Corequisite(s) (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Required Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):

And/Or	(Course/Test Code	Min Grade/Score	Academic Level)	Concurrency?

Registration Restrictions (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Registration Restrictions:

Field(s) of Study:

Class(es):

Include

Limited to students with a class of Senior Plus (SCRRCLS_ONLY_SP)

Limited to students with a class of Non Degree (SCRRCLS_ONLY_ND)

Limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy. (SCRRCLS_ONLY_DC)

Limited to students with a class of Graduate. (SCRRCLS_ONLY_GR)

Limited to students with a class of Junior Plus (SCRRCLS_ONLY_JP)

Level(s):**Include**

Enrollment limited to students with a level of Non-Degree (SCRRLVL_ONLY_ND)

Limited to undergraduate level students. (SCRRLVL_ONLY_UG)

Limited to graduate level students only. (SCRRLVL_ONLY_GR)

Degree(s):**Exclude**

Non-Degree Undergraduate Degree students may not enroll. (SCRRDEG_NO_NDU)

School(s):**Catalog****Description:**

Analyzes topics of geographical or geospatial interest. May be repeated for credit when topics vary (up to 12 credits). Analyzes topics of immediate interest. Notes: Content varies.

Justification:

What: Changing title

Why: Currently 3 of our 'topics' courses have different names (special, select, and selected). This will put them all as "Special Topics" courses. As well, it is more apt that this is Geography and Geoinformation science, not Geography (as we put both geography and geoinformation courses for graduates here)

What: Changing description

Why: Was vague; wanted to add a bit more detail to help students

What: Adding "May be repeated for credit when topics vary." to description.

Why: Saw a new CHEM special topics course use this in the description. We believe it will help students understand that they can take a course like this when content varies. Adding the credits clause to let students know how many credits are allowed overall in this course.

Does this course cover material which crosses into another department? No

Learning Outcomes:

Will this course be scheduled as a cross-level cross listed section? Yes

Please use the Additional Attachments button to attach two syllabi for review, one undergraduate and one graduate, preferably as separate documents. These should be provided in order to demonstrate the difference in expectations and assessments for undergraduates and graduates taking the course.

Attach Syllabus

[GGS399_SYLLABUS_Fall_2025.pdf](#)

[GGS590_SYLLABUS_Fall_2025.pdf](#)

Additional Attachments

Specialized Course Categories:

Have you reached out to the Libraries to determine whether there are adequate resources to support your course? If not, please email Meg Meiman, Associate University Librarian for Learning, Research, and Engagement at mmeiman2@gmu.edu.

Additional Comments:

Reviewer Comments

Key: 7454