

Geographic Information Science (GIS) Administration, M.S.

The MS in GIS Administration degree program requires a minimum of 36 credit hours, including 12 credit hours of business courses and 24 credit hours of GIS coursework. It has only one track.

Admission to the GIS Administration program does not require an undergraduate geography or related degree. However, foundation-level proficiency in GIS and experience with Esri ArcGIS Pro software is required to be successful in the program. These foundational proficiencies can be completed alongside core program courses or separately through our Graduate GIS Certificate program. Many students enter with no previous GIS coursework.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the University graduate admission requirements described in the [Admissions section](#) of the catalog, the department bases decisions for regular admission on a holistic review of credentials in which the following criteria are used to assess the potential success of each applicant:

- GIS academic preparation*
- Submission of a letter of intent demonstrating graduate-level motivation and writing abilities
- Submission of a resume including appropriate employment at increasing levels of responsibility
- List two names of professional and/or academic reference including title, email, and phone number

*Transcripts are reviewed to determine if GIS foundational proficiencies have been met.

No more than 49% of program requirements for this degree may be in traditional business subjects.

Geographic Information Science Administration

UWF's online GIS degree includes a total of 36 credit hours. You'll explore 12 credit hours of business management skills and 24 credit hours of advanced geographic information science topics.

If you do not have a GIS background, 15 credit hours of foundational proficiencies courses are required and can be taken alongside the business classes. Foundational proficiencies do not count towards the degree. Many students enter with no previous GIS course work.

Foundational Proficiencies (15 sh)

GIS 5050	Geographic Information Systems	3
GIS 5050L	Geographic Information Systems Lab	1
GIS 5007	Computer Cartography	3
GIS 5007L	Computer Cartography Lab	1
GIS 5027	Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing	3
GIS 5027L	Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing Lab	1

GIS 5100	Applications in Geographic Information Systems	3
Total Hours		15

Management Core (12 sh)

GEB 5816	MBA Foundations: Principles of Human Resources Management	1.5
GEB 5871	MBA Foundations: Managerial Economics	1.5
GEB 5872	MBA Foundations: Financial Management I	1.5
GEB 5875	MBA Foundations: Management Skills and Applications	1.5
MAN 6156	Management and Organizational Behavior	3
GEB 5870	MBA Foundations: e-Business Systems	1.5
GEB 5876	MBA Foundations: Marketing Management	1.5
Total Hours		12

Geographic Information Science (GIS) (24 sh)

GIS 5103	GIS Programming	3
GIS 5935	Special Topics in Geographic Science	3
GIS 6005	Communicating GIS	3
GIS 6105	Spatial Data Management	3
GIS 6110	Advanced Topics in Geographic Information Science	3
GIS 6555	Geographic Information Systems Management	3
GIS 6955	GIS Capstone	6
Total Hours		24

No more than 49% of program requirements for this degree may be in traditional business subjects.

Graduate Certificate in GIS

Department: [Earth and Environmental Sciences](#)

Semester Hours: [12](#)

The Graduate Geographic Information Science Certificate program is designed to teach students and working professionals both the highly in-demand technical skill of using industry-standard geospatial software as well as a strong conceptual foundation in Geographic Information Science. Graduate level courses focus on project development and management relating to various applications. Required courses and GIS internship have been carefully combined to reflect the real-world requirements needed for careers in the geospatial sciences. Students completing this program can expect to be marketable as GIS Technicians, GIS Analysts, GIS Specialists, and GIS Managers within various industries. All courses are offered online.

Admission to the Graduate GIS Certificate program does not require an undergraduate geography or related degree. However, foundation-level proficiency in GIS and experience with Esri ArcGIS Pro software is required to be successful in the program. These foundational proficiencies can be completed alongside core program courses. Many students enter with no previous GIS coursework.

All graduate-level foundational proficiency courses and core courses with exception to the GIS Internship can be applied to the [MS in Geographic Information Science Administration](#) program.

Admission Requirements

- [Admission to UWF](#) as a degree or non-degree seeking graduate student
- Submission of [GIS Certificate Program Application](#)
- Provide proof of a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and course syllabi for any GIS coursework
- Submission of [letter of intent](#) demonstrating graduate-level motivation and writing abilities

Inquiries should be addressed to gisonline@uwf.edu. The department's GIS staff will assist in all matters of application, admission, degree planning, and graduation. All students planning to enter the program must meet with an advisor to develop a degree plan.

Course Requirements

Foundational Proficiencies

Candidates are expected to have completed the equivalent of the following foundational proficiency courses. Courses that are not compliant with UWF's 6-year time-to-degree policy must be reviewed to determine proficiency. Foundation courses and core courses may be taken concurrently pending department approval.

GIS 4043/4043L	Geographic Information Systems	4
or GIS 5050/5050L	Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 4006/4006L	Computer Cartography	4
or GIS 5007/5007L	Computer Cartography	
GIS 4035/4035L	Photo Interpretation and Remote Sensing	4
or GIS 5027/5027L	Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing	
Total Hours		12

Core Courses

Students are required to complete the following core courses with a grade of 'C' or better and maintain an overall 3.0 GPA to be awarded the Graduate Geographic Information Science Certificate.

GIS 5103	GIS Programming	3
Choose one of the following:		3
GIS 5100	Applications in Geographic Information Systems	
GIS 5265	GIS Applications for Archaeology	
Choose one of the following:		3
GIS 5935	Special Topics in Geographic Science	
GIS 5938	Special Topics in GIS for Archaeology	
Choose three semester hours from the following:		3
GIS 5945	GIS Internship	
GIS 6905	GIS Directed Study	
Total Hours		12