

GEOGRAPHY: GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE - PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S, MS

For the degree of **Master of Science (MS) in Geography** with Professional Science Master's in Geographic Information Science Concentration

This program is designed for careers in business management using geospatial technologies. Students build a flexible, cross-disciplinary expertise around a strong Geographic Information Science core, while acquiring business knowledge and professional skills. The business curriculum includes technology management, marketing, entrepreneurship, finance, project and/or process management.

PSM students typically complete the program in 18 months consisting of 3 full-time, on-campus semesters and a summer internship. Graduates are awarded a master's degree in geography with the Professional Science Master's in GIS concentration.

Admission

Candidates for admission must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. institution, or comparable degree from a recognized institution abroad with a GPA or 3.0 (4.0 scale) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate or graduate coursework. Application requirements include: 3 letters of recommendation, proof of funding, and English language proficiency scores (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/>) for non-native English speakers. Transfer credit from Illinois or other institutions is not permitted.

GRE scores are no longer required or evaluated for admission to this program.

Financial Aid

Illinois PSM students may not hold assistantships or other tuition/fee waiver-generating appointments but may be eligible for student loans and graduate hourly appointments and paid internships. Statutory waivers and tuition scholarships are accepted.

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PSM Concentration Requirements:

Code	Title	Hours
Business courses prescribed by the Illinois PSM program		10
PSM 501	PSM Industry Seminar I	0
PSM 502	PSM Industry Seminar II	0
PSM 503	PSM Industry Seminar III	0
PSM 555	PSM Internship	0

Geography: Geographic Information Science, MS Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Choose from following list in consultation with the faculty coordinator.		

GGIS 412	Geospatial Technologies & Society	3
GGIS 421	Earth Systems Modeling	4
GGIS 439	Health Applications of GIS	3
GGIS 460	Aerial Photo Analysis	4
GGIS 473	Digital Cartography & Map Design	4
GGIS 476	Environmental Remote Sensing	3
GGIS 477	Introduction to Remote Sensing	3
GGIS 478	Techniques of Remote Sensing	3
GGIS 480	Principles of Geographic Information Science	3
GGIS 489	Programming for GIS	4
GGIS 560	Spatial Epidemiology	4
GGIS 570	Advanced Spatial Analysis	4
GGIS 590	Graduate Independent Study	1 to 8
Other GIS-related courses may be substituted with permission of the GIS-PSM Director.		
Total Hours		32

PSM Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Business courses prescribed by the Illinois PSM program		10
PSM 501	PSM Industry Seminar I	0
PSM 502	PSM Industry Seminar II	0
PSM 503	PSM Industry Seminar III	0
PSM 555	PSM Internship	0
Total Hours		10

Other Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Other requirements may overlap.		
The PSM concentration is required.		
Minimum hours required within the unit:		16
Minimum 500-level credit hours (8 in GGIS):		12
Evaluation conducted by the GIS-PSM Director and/or members of the GIS-PSM committee		
Full-time enrollment (12 credit hours or higher) is required in fall and spring semesters; summer enrollment is required for the internship.		
Minimum GPA:		3.0

Code	Title	Hours
Total Hours for the Geography: Geographic Information Science & Professional Science Master's, MS		42

Please refer to the Graduate College Handbook (<https://grad.illinois.edu/handbooks-policies/>) for additional information and requirements.

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- All PSM graduate students will have a firm understanding of the theories and applications of geographic information science and all its diversity and development trends.

2. All PSM graduate students will have proficiency in at least one GIS toolbox and will have the technical skills for data manipulation, editing, and geospatial data visualization.
3. All PSM graduate students will be able to effectively apply critical geospatial thinking to address real-world problems.
4. All PSM graduate students will acquire foundational business knowledge and professional skills to work as a geospatial analyst in a pertinent professional team environment.
5. All PSM graduate students will have a strong knowledge of proper ethical conduct in the context of developing and executing geospatial solutions.

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Concentration*

Department Head: Dr. Shaowen Wang

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael Minn

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Illinois Professional Science Master's (PSM)

Graduate College Admissions