GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE (GIS)

GIS 2170 - GIS in Civil Engineering
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course discusses the fundamental concepts of GIS, and the methods and software used to solve civil engineering programs. The course also covers skills to deal with remote sensing data, basic and differential GPS surveying to prepare students for today's growing business needs in civil engineering companies and government agencies. Students may only apply credits toward their graduation requirements from one of the following courses: EAS 2170, BIOL 4170, EAS 4170, or SOC 4650.

GIS 2930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
GIS 2980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
GIS 4010 - Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This class introduces concepts, science, and theory of GIS and provides hands-on learning experiences. After successful completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate fundamental techniques of geospatial analysis and mapping. (Offered every fall.)

GIS 4020 - Intermediate GIS
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course covers intermediate and advanced topics in GIS, including remote sensing for GIS, geospatial statistics and social, economic, and environmental aspects of GIS. Each subject is presented by a professor who specializes in the subject area. (Offered every spring.)

GIS 4030 - Geospatial Data Management
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This class teaches students how to design and implement spatial databases, topology, spatial data models, spatial query languages, relational database architecture, data storage and indexing, SQL, data mining, etc. Students learn data management skills including relational databases, server GIS, schemas, and enterprise data management using OGC standards, web application program Interfaces (iOS, Android), data security and risk management. (Offered in Spring)

GIS 4040 - Introduction to Remote Sensing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course include fundamental knowledge on the physics of remote sensing; photogrammetry; multispectral, hyperspectral, and thermal imaging; RADAR; and LiDAR. Principles are reviewed in lectures, and lab assignments cover image processing, environmental modeling, and analysis. The course objective is to demonstrate applications of remote sensing in environmental sciences with software training in ENVI&IDL and SARscape. (Offered every fall.)

GIS 4050 - Digital Image Processing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will concentrate on the theories and applications of image processing and the extraction of thematic information from satellite images. Students learn key concepts and techniques of image processing through hands-on lab exercises involving image calibration, rectification, fusion, transform, filtering, classification, segmentation, and image quality & accuracy assessment. (Offered in Spring)

GIS 4060 - Geospatial Methods in Environmental Studies
Credit(s): 3 Credits
For students and professionals in Environmental Sciences, this course explores an integrated GIS and remote sensing approach to solve real-world environmental problems. Through hands-on projects, the course will also prepare students for today's growing business needs in innovative server-based GIS solutions, relational databases and web mapping in an enterprise environment. Geospatial methods to be discussed include: spatial analysis, web GIS, database design, management and data mining with integration of GIS, remote sensing and GPS, and varies applications of the techniques with special attention in environmental studies such as risk assessment and mitigation, environmental modeling, natural resource management, water/air pollution & control, forest fire mapping, health and environmental change analysis etc.

GIS 4090 - Introduction to Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will introduce students to Python programming and its applications to remote sensing and GIS. Through completing this course, students will be able to use Python to perform common GIS and remote sensing analysis tasks, automate workflows, and develop custom Python tools. Topics will include describing data, manipulating data, automating spatial analysis tasks, creating Python scripts and tools, and using Python for imagery analysis.

GIS 4091 - Advanced Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
In this class, students will learn how to publish, consume, and analyze web services using Python, Javascript, and HTML. They will be introduced to more powerful, more advanced Python libraries such as Pandas, Numpy, ArcGIS, and Folium in addition to learning advanced geographic data visualization techniques that leverage Python, Javascript, and web APIs. They will also learn how to use the Javascript to create their first stand-alone web applications. This class builds on what students learned in GIS 4090 and helps them develop knowledge and skills that they will use throughout their careers.

Attributes: Natural Science Req (A&S)

GIS 4092 - Machine Learning for GIS and Remote Sensing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Introduction to machine learning with a focus on applying ML techniques to problems in GIS and remote sensing. Topics to include regression, neural networks and deep learning, kernel methods, and clustering algorithms. Emphasis to be placed on geospatial analytics working with real data sets from practical applications such as crime and disease mapping, data fusion and image analysis, water quality and yield prediction. (Offered in Fall and Summer)

Prerequisite(s): MATH 1510; (GIS 4040 or GIS 4090)
GIS 4100 - Microwave Remote Sensing: SAR Principles, Data Processing and Applications
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The course covers principles of synthetic aperture radar (SAR), SAR satellites and data sources, SAR image processing, interpretation and applications. Popular data processing techniques, including SAR intensity processing, InSAR and DInSAR techniques, polarimetry tools/classification methods, Persistent Scatterer Interferometry are discussed through detailed step-by-step lab work on the processing chain including measuring earthquake deformation, land subsidence, landslides, building sinking, and tree height/health estimation, DEM generation, and various environmental applications. Students will have experience on ordering, processing and interpreting SAR data, and an opportunity to discuss advantages and limitations of SAR remote sensing for their specific research, and to explore RADAR w/ LiDAR for its common applications in vegetation assessment and terrain characterization.

GIS 4110 - Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR)
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course focuses on providing application oriented forum on InSAR for geoscientists. Principles of InSAR, DInSAR, timeSAR are introduced through hands-on lab work on measuring earthquake deformation, volcanic unrest, land subsidence due to extraction of groundwater, oil, gas, and coal mining using both commercial and open-source software tools.

GIS 4120 - Geospatial Analytics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This class introduces geospatial solutions to grand societal challenges. Emphasis is placed on the roles that location intelligence and geospatial technology play in scientific discovery. Discussion of emerging technologies to tackle grand challenges such as controlling the spread of infectious disease, providing access to clean water, human mobility and migration, and creating smart and connected cities. (Offered in Spring)
Prerequisite(s): GIS 4010; GIS 4040

GIS 4130 - Human Geography
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This class provides an overview of the major themes of human geography that comprise the complexities of systemic interactions between humans and the environment. Each lecture will highlight a specialized perspective and disciplinary skills that contribute to providing the human geography backdrop for a variety of global issues. Discussions will span data taxonomies and data visualization and analysis, biodiversity, cultures and geopolitics, a human security use case linking wildlife trafficking with disease vector analysis, and geopolitical for a and policies with human geography applications. (Offered in even years in Fall.)

GIS 4930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

GIS 4960 - GIS Capstone
Credit(s): 3 Credits
In this course, students will consolidate their coursework and demonstrate their mastery of professional remote sensing and/or GIS competencies through ongoing research projects. Depending on whether students' interests are in remote sensing or GIS, topics will cover spatial analysis, web GIS, database design, management and data mining with integration of GIS, remote sensing and GPS, InSAR, and various applications of techniques. (Offered as needed.)

GIS 4980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

GIS 5010 - Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course introduces concepts, science, and theory of GIS and provides hands-on learning experiences. After successful completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate fundamental techniques of geospatial analysis and mapping. (Offered every fall.)

GIS 5020 - Intermediate Geographic Information Systems
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course covers intermediate and advanced topics in GIS, including remote sensing for GIS, geospatial statistics and social, economic, and environmental aspects of GIS. Each subject is presented by a professor who specializes in the subject area. (Offered every spring.)

GIS 5030 - Geospatial Data Management
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This class teaches students how to design and implement spatial databases, topology, spatial data models, spatial query languages, relational database architecture, data storage and indexing, SQL, data mining, etc. Students learn data management skills including relational databases, server GIS, schemas, and enterprise data management using OGC standards, web application program Interfaces (iOS, Android), data security and risk management. (Offered in Spring)
Prerequisite(s): GIS 5010 with a grade of C or higher

GIS 5040 - Introduction to Remote Sensing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course include fundamental knowledge on the physics of remote sensing; photogrammetry; multispectral, hyperspectral, and thermal imaging; RADAR; and LiDAR. Principles are reviewed in lectures, and lab assignments cover image processing, environmental modeling, and analysis. The course objective is to demonstrate applications of remote sensing in environmental sciences with software training in ENVI&IDL and SARscape. (Offered every fall.)

GIS 5050 - Digital Image Processing
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course will concentrate on the theories and applications of image processing and the extraction of thematic information from satellite images. Students learn key concepts and techniques of image processing through hands-on lab exercises involving image calibration, rectification, fusion, transform, filtering, classification, segmentation, and image quality & accuracy assessment. (Offered in Spring)
Prerequisite(s): GIS 5040 with a grade of C or higher

GIS 5060 - Geospatial Methods in Environmental Studies
Credit(s): 3 Credits
For students and professionals in Environmental Sciences, this course explores an integrated GIS and remote sensing approach to solving real-world environmental problems. Through hands-on projects, the course will also prepare students for today's growing business needs in innovative server-based GIS solutions, relational databases and web mapping in an enterprise environment. Geospatial methods to be discussed include: spatial analysis, web GIS, database design, management and data mining with integration of GIS, remote sensing and GPS, and various applications of the techniques with special attention in environmental studies such as risk assessment and mitigation, environmental modeling, natural resource management, water/air pollution & control, forest fire mapping, health and environmental change analysis etc.
GIS 5070 - Research Methods  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
Analysis of research procedures as practiced in geospatial science. Research objectives, literature searches and review, data collection design, data analysis techniques, and modes of presentation. Offered every fall.

GIS 5080 - Digital Cartography and Geovisualization  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
Readings, discussion, and hands-on investigation of advanced cartography topics and contemporary geovisualization issues. Analytic cartography, spatial analysis, and visualization techniques. Offered every spring.

GIS 5090 - Introduction to Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
This course will introduce students to Python programming and its applications to remote sensing and GIS. Through completing this course, students will be able to use Python to perform common GIS and remote sensing analysis tasks, automate workflows, and develop custom Python tools. Topics will include describing data, manipulating data, automating spatial analysis tasks, creating Python scripts and tools, and using Python for imagery analysis.

GIS 5091 - Advanced Programming for GIS and Remote Sensing  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
In this class, students will learn how to publish, consume, and analyze web services using Python, Javascript, and HTML. They will be introduced to more powerful, more advanced Python libraries such as Pandas, Numpy, ArcGIS, and Folium in addition to learning advanced geographic data visualization techniques that leverage Python, Javascript, and web APIs. They will also learn how to use the Javascript to create their first stand-alone web applications. This class builds on what students learned in GIS 5090 and helps them develop knowledge and skills that they will use throughout their careers.  
**Prerequisite(s):** GIS 5090

GIS 5092 - Machine Learning for GIS and Remote Sensing  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
This course will introduce applied machine learning techniques for GIS and remote sensing. Topics include machine learning regression, Convolutional Neural Networks, computer vision, nonlinear activation functions and optimization, image recognition and classification, deep learning, extreme learning machine.  
**Prerequisite(s):** GIS 5090

GIS 5100 - Microwave Remote Sensing: SAR Principles, Data Processing and Applications  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
The course covers principles of synthetic aperture radar (SAR), SAR satellites and data sources, SAR image processing, interpretation and applications. Popular data processing techniques, including SAR intensity processing, InSAR and DInSAR techniques, polarimetry tools/classification methods, Persistent Scatterer Interferometry are discussed through detailed step-by-step lab work on the processing chain including measuring earthquake deformation, land subsidence, landslides, building sinking, and tree height/health estimation, DEM generation, and various environmental applications. Students will have experience on ordering, processing and interpreting SAR data, and an opportunity to discuss advantages and limitations of SAR remote sensing for their specific research, and to explore RADAR w/ LiDAR for its common applications in vegetation assessment and terrain characterization.

GIS 5110 - Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR)  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
This course focuses on providing application oriented forum on InSAR for geoscientists. Principles of InSAR, DInSAR, timeSAR are introduced through hands-on lab work on measuring earthquake deformation, volcanic unrest, land subsidence due to extraction of groundwater, oil, gas, and coal mining using both commercial and open-source software tools.

GIS 5120 - Geospatial Analytics  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
This class introduces geospatial solutions to grand societal challenges. Emphasis is placed on the roles that location intelligence and geospatial technology play in scientific discovery. Discussion of emerging technologies to tackle grand challenges such as controlling the spread of infectious disease, providing access to clean water, human mobility and migration, and creating smart and connected cities.

GIS 5130 - Human Geography  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits**
This class provides an overview of the major themes of human geography that comprise the complexities of systemic interactions between humans and the environment. Each lecture will highlight a specialized perspective and disciplinary skills that contribute to providing the human geography backdrop for a variety of global issues. Discussions will span data taxonomies and data visualization and analysis, biodiversity, cultures and geopolitics, a human security use case linking wildlife trafficking with disease vector analysis, and geo-political fora and policies with human geography applications. (Offered even years in Fall)  
**Prerequisite(s):** GIS 5010 with a grade of C or higher

GIS 5930 - Special Topics  
**Credit(s): 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

GIS 5970 - Research Topics  
**Credit(s): 0-3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)
A non-classroom course in which a student engages in research on a topic that is related to the student’s graduate work and career goals. Offered annually.

GIS 5980 - Independent Study  
**Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)

GIS 5990 - Thesis Research  
**Credit(s): 0-6 Credits** (Repeatable for credit)
Research that leads to a Master’s Thesis and defense of the Thesis. Offered every fall and spring.