

Spring 2020 GIS Courses

Space is still available in two dynamic new courses for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students in Geographic Information Science (GIS) taught by the Geography Program in the Department of Geosciences at UMass - Amherst. These courses, taught multi-modally (on campus at Mt. Ida, synchronous enrollment in Amherst, and online) cover exciting areas of spatial analysis, geovisualization, cartography, and spatial decision making.

GEOGRAPH 493A & GEOGRAPH 693A: Cartography and Geovisualization

MW 9:45a to 11:00a, 3 credits

Students will understand and implement principles of good design in cartography along with understanding the human vision and how it influences perception and cognition. The course will also cover the scope of contemporary thematic cartography and web mapping. In this course, students will:

- Learn the fundamentals of cartography and map design
- Become familiar with using open source tools to improve the visual quality of web-based and other maps
- Create maps through independent design and exploration

GEOGRAPH 493S & GEOGRAPH 693S: Spatial Decision Making and Support

MW 2:30p to 3:45p, 3 credits

This course is aimed at students who have a foundation in basic GIS techniques and applications and are interested in expanding their knowledge into their area of spatial decision making and visualization of the decision maps. In this course, students will:

- Learn the fundamentals of spatial decision making and support
- Become familiar with using Python scripting to solve decision-making problems for spatial models
- Create decision analysis maps along with uncertainty/sensitivity maps in order to support the decision-making process

Learners interested in either campus option (Amherst or Mt. Ida) can sign up through SPIRE. Online learners can head to <https://www.umass.edu/online/> for registration information.

Enrollment is still open, but these courses will continue to fill quickly. Please contact the instructor, Seda Şalap-Ayça, with any questions about course content, at ssalapayca@umass.edu

For questions concerning GIS degrees and programs at UMass – Amherst, please contact Geography Program co-head Forrest Bowlick at fbowlick@umass.edu