Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Sciences

Geospatial information sciences (GISc) harness groundbreaking technologies for spatial data analytics, including Big Data that utilizes location and interaction to enhance our understanding of social and environmental dynamics. GISc graduates have the knowledge and skills to spatially integrate data and computing resources for informed evidence-based decision making in environmental modeling, business intelligence, precision agriculture, smart cities, public safety, and community resilience, to name a few.

Recent technological innovations have greatly enhanced our ability to collect and analyze environmental, social, and economic data about places as well as gather geotagged data about individuals. These technologies include geographic information systems (GIS), the Global Positioning System (GPS) and satellite-based remote sensing. They penetrate virtually every aspect of our lives, from digital maps in cars to the maintenance of city infrastructure, regional agriculture and forest lands. They also play an essential role for social-environmental inventory, planning, and forecasting of food, water, energy, and health. GIS has revolutionized traditional disciplines such as geography and inspired scientists from a broad range of fields to combine efforts on leading-edge research. For example, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) equipped with remote sensors now provide near-real time imagery for search, rescue and damage assessment after a disaster. LiDAR data clouds enable us to build high-resolution 3D models of buildings, trees, and terrains. Location-based services and mobile geospatial apps allow us to search for information and connect our social networks.

Careers in Geospatial Information Sciences
GISc graduates are prepared for a wide variety of careers, as businesses and governments race to take advantage of technological advances. In the public sector, graduates may work in areas such as public administration and policy analysis; public safety, criminology and emergency preparedness management; geospatial intelligence; environmental management; or transportation planning. Businesses also recruit GISc graduates, especially companies focused on marketing; site selection, logistics and real estate; resource exploration (including petroleum) and others.

Students who graduate with a BS also may move on to graduate school, perhaps entering UT Dallas’ highly regarded MS or PhD geospatial programs, which were recently ranked in the top 5 in the nation. The University’s Career Center is an important resource for students pursuing their career. Licensed counselors are available to provide strategies for mastering job interviews, writing cover letters and resumes and helping students connect with campus recruiters, among other services.

Geospatial Information Sciences at UT Dallas
The general BS degree requires 120 semester credit hours to graduate: 42 semester credit hours from the University’s core curriculum, 39 semester credit hours from the major and 39 semester credit hours of electives.
Every new generation inherits an increasingly complex world, which prompts a need for new thinking about public policies that impact people's lives. In the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (EPPS), we examine the implications of innovation and change for individuals and communities.

As an undergraduate in EPPS, you will have the chance to work with professors who are probing issues that will affect your future. You will develop the vital skills you need to thrive in a rapidly evolving, highly competitive job market. EPPS will prepare you for careers in government, nonprofits and the private sector that enable you to make a real difference in the world of today and tomorrow.

EPPS is at the forefront of leadership, ethics and innovation in the public and nonprofit sectors. Our students and faculty look forward to new opportunities to study and address the complex and evolving issues of the future.

**Degrees Offered**

**Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts:** Criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, international political economy, political science, public affairs, public policy, sociology

**Master of Science:** Applied sociology, criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, international political economy, justice administration and leadership, social data analytics and research

**Master of Arts:** Political science, political science-constitutional law, political science-legislative studies

**Master of Public Affairs:** Public affairs

**Master of Public Policy:** Public policy

**Doctor of Philosophy:** Criminology, economics, geospatial information sciences, political science, public affairs, public policy and political economy

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