

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
(Final; Information)

EP.24.036 Report of Administrative Approvals through October 30, 2023

Senate committees are authorized to act for and in the name of the Senate on minor matters. Below is a listing of the administrative approvals the Senate Committee on Educational Policy approved at its meeting on October 30. For each program listing, there is no change to the total hours required. Additional information for each approval is attached.

A. Undergraduate Programs

- 1) Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Geography & Geographic Information Science in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences** – removes two courses and adds two courses to a select from foundational core list to reflect current regular departmental offerings and foci and expands the scope of the remaining credit hours to permit students to take sequences of advanced courses.

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 10/03/23 1:40 pm

Viewing: **5587 : Geography & Geographic Information Science Minor, UG**

Last approved: 03/16/22 1:51 pm

Last edit: 10/19/23 1:35 pm

Changes proposed by: Matthew Cohn

[Geography & Geographic Information Science Minor](#)

Catalog Pages
Using this
Program

Proposal Type:

In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **1872 Head**
3. **SESE Head**
4. **KV Dean**
5. **University Librarian**
6. **COTE Programs**
7. **Provost**
8. **Senate EPC**
9. Senate
10. U Senate Conf
11. Board of Trustees
12. IBHE
13. HLC
14. DMI

Approval Path

1. 10/04/23 11:25 am
Donna Butler (dbutler): Approved for U Program Review
2. 10/04/23 12:56 pm
Julie Cidell (jcidell): Approved for 1872 Head
3. 10/04/23 5:07 pm
Jonathan Tomkin (tomkin): Approved for SESE Head
4. 10/11/23 4:36 pm
Stephen Downie (sdownie): Approved for KV Dean
5. 10/12/23 6:04 am
Claire Stewart (clairst):

Approved for
University
Librarian

6. 10/12/23 8:41 am
Suzanne Lee

(suzannel):
Approved for
COTE Programs

7. 10/19/23 10:01
am

Brooke Newell
(bsnewell):
Approved for
Provost

History

1. Aug 26, 2019 by Amy Elli (amyelli)
2. Apr 16, 2021 by Beth McKown (bmckown1)
3. Mar 16, 2022 by Beth McKown (bmckown1)

Minor (ex. European Union Studies)

This proposal is
for a:
Revision

Administration Details

Official Program Name	Geography & Geographic Information Science Minor, UG	
Diploma Title		
Sponsor College	Liberal Arts & Sciences	
Sponsor Department	Geography & Geographic Information Science	
Sponsor Name	<u>Julie Cidell</u> , Shaowen Wang , Professor and Department Head	
Sponsor Email	<u>jcidell@illinois.edu</u> shaowen@illinois.edu	
College Contact	Stephen R. Downie	College Contact Email
	sdownie@illinois.edu	

College Budget
Officer

College Budget
Officer Email

List the role for rollbacks (which role will edit the proposal on questions from EPC, e.g., Dept Head or Initiator) and/or any additional stakeholders. Purpose: List here who will do the editing work if proposal needs rolled back. And any other stakeholders.

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?
No

Proposal Title

Effective Catalog Term Fall 2024

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberals Art and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Geography & Geographic Information Science in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised during the next 6 weeks? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently. Example: If you are revising the BS proposal and one related concentration within the next 6 weeks, "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)."

Program Justification

Provide a brief description of what changes are being made to the program.

We are simplifying the structure of the minor by streamlining the six-hour foundational core list to reflect current regular departmental offerings and foci, and by expanding the scope of the remaining 12 hours to permit students to take sequences of advanced courses that will maximize the value of the minor to the students. With this revision, students will select six hours of GIS core courses at the 100/200 level, and 12 hours at the 200, 300, or 400 level, at least six hours of which must be at the 300 or 400 level. The total hours for the minor remains unchanged. Other departments who control courses that are affected by this revision have been notified (attached).

Did the program content change 25% or more in relation to the total credit hours, since the 2020-2021 catalog. (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/archivedacademiccatalogs/2020-2021/>)

No

Why are these changes necessary?

We are making this change because the legacy structure based around the three subdisciplinary areas (human, physical, GIS) no longer reflects the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of our course offerings, and no longer meets the professional or academic needs of most students.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

Yes

Courses outside
of the sponsoring
department/interdisciplinary
departments

[ATMS 100 - Introduction to Meteorology](#)

[ESE 320 - Water Planet, Water Crisis](#)

[NRES 401 - Watershed Hydrology](#)

Please attach any [GGIS Minor revision - electives.pdf](#)
letters of [ATMS acknowledgement of GGIS minor revision.pdf](#)
support/acknowledgement
for any
Instructional
Resources
consider faculty,
students, and/or
other impacted
units as
appropriate.

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

List the program's student learning outcomes. Each outcome should identify what students are expected to know and/or be able to do upon completing this program.

1. Geographic Understanding; GIS minor students will be able to define fundamental geographical concepts for describing the interconnectedness of places and scales in human-environmental systems, including the sustainability of those systems.

2. Spatial Patterns and Processes: GIS minor students will be able to analyze spatial patterns, distributions, processes, and connections within and among different human-environmental systems, using qualitative, quantitative, computational, and/or spatial methods of research appropriate to their level of training and their field of geographic inquiry.

3. Problem-Solving and Communication: GIS minor students will be able to formulate and conduct geographic analyses and communicate the results in verbal, written, and visual form. ~~No impact anticipated.~~

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Geographic understanding (SLO 1) is directly assessed with course assessments in the foundational core classes and indirectly assessed through successful achievement of course learning objectives in subsequent elective courses.

Spatial patterns and processes (SLO 2) and problem solving and communication (SLO 3) are directly assessed with course assessments in the elective courses.

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Geography is a heterogeneous discipline with course-specific rubrics and thresholds used to assess achievement of course learning objectives as passing grades. A passing grade in each class will be considered minimal achievement of course learning objectives, with passing grades on covered courses indicating minimal achievement of SLOs.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Suitability of course material in minor courses for the achievement of these SLOs is assessed as a component of program assessment for the major.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PublicAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees, if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide

information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.

An undergraduate minor should consist of at least 16 - and no more than 21 hours - of course work, with at least 6 hours of 300- or 400- level courses. Except for clearly remedial offerings, prerequisite courses within the sponsoring unit count towards the total; prerequisite courses outside the sponsoring unit do not count toward this total. The unit sponsoring the minor and that unit's college may set educationally necessary prerequisites for eligibility for the minor within these constraints. Does this proposal meet these criteria?

Yes

Revised programs [Comparative Table of Proposed Changes_GGIS Minor.xlsx](#)

Attach a revised Sample Sequence (for undergraduate program) or college-level forms.

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the new catalog page for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

The minor in Geography and Geographic Information Science provides students with both foundational courses in core geographical ideas and methods, and deeper specialization with advanced coursework that prepares students for research and professional opportunities. Students select six hours of GGIS core courses at the 100/200 level, and 12 hours at the 200, 300, or 400 level, at least six hours of which must be at the 300 or 400 level.

Statement for
Programs of
Study Catalog

Course List

Code	Title	Hours
Two core courses selected from the following:		6
ATMS/GGIS-100	Introduction to Meteorology	
GGIS 101	Global Development & Environment	
GGIS 103	Earth's Physical Systems	
GGIS 104	Social and Cultural Geography	
GGIS-105	The Digital Earth	
GGIS 106	Geographies of Globalization	
GGIS 210	Social & Environmental Issues	
GGIS-222	Big Rivers of the World	
ESE-320	Water Planet, Water Crisis	
NRES/GGIS-401	Watershed Hydrology	
GGIS-405	Geography Field Course	
GGIS-406	Fluvial Geomorphology	
GGIS-408	Humans and River Systems	
GGIS-412	Geospatial Technologies & Society	
GGIS-459	Ecohydraulics	
GGIS-496	Climate & Social Vulnerability	
One course in geographic information science, selected from the following:		3
GGIS-371	Spatial Analysis	
GGIS-379	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	
GGIS-380	Geographic Information Systems II	

Code	Title	Hours
GGIS 412	Geospatial Technologies & Society	
GGIS 440	Business Applications of GIS	
PATH 439	Health Applications of GIS	
GGIS 460	Aerial Photo Analysis	
GGIS 468	Biological Modeling	
GGIS 473	Digital Cartography & Map Design	
GGIS 476	Environmental Remote Sensing	
GGIS 477	Introduction to Remote Sensing	
GGIS 478	Techniques of Remote Sensing	
GGIS 479	Advanced Topics in GIS	
GGIS 480	Principles of Geographic Information Science	
One 200-400 level course selected from any of the above:		3
<u>GGIS 221</u>	Geographies of Global Conflict	
One course in human geography, selected from the following:		3
GGIS 204	Cities of the World	
GGIS 205	Business Location Decisions	
<u>GGIS 224</u>	Environmental Data Science	
GGIS 254	People, Places, and Environments of the US	
GGIS 350	Sustainability and the City	
GGIS 356	Sustainable Development in South Asia	
GGIS 384	Population Geography	
GGIS 405	Geography Field Course	
GGIS 410	Green Development	
GGIS 438	Geography of Health Care	
GGIS 455	Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa	
GGIS 465	Transportation & Sustainability	
GGIS 466	Environmental Policy	
GGIS 471	Modern Geographic Thought	
GGIS 483	Urban Geography	
GGIS 484	Cities, Crime, and Space	
One course in physical/environmental geography, selected from the following:		3
<u>Four 200-, 300-, or 400-level GIS courses, at least six hours of which must be at 12 300- or 400-level</u>		
Total Hours		18
At least 6 hours total must be at the 300 or 400 level.		

Program Features

Academic Level Undergraduate

Is this minor?

A Comprehensive study in a single discipline

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Other than certification via the students' degree audits, is there any additional planned mechanism to award/honor successful completion of the minor?

No

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Enrollment

Will the department limit enrollment to the minor?

No

Describe how the department will monitor the admission to/enrollment in the minor.

No impact anticipated.

Are there any prerequisites for the proposed minor?

No

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

Higher enrollment anticipated but no significant impact on department capacity.

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?

No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

No impact anticipated.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Library collections, resources, and services are sufficient to support this revision.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number EP.24.036

Attach Rollback/Approval Notices

This proposal requires HLC inquiry No

DMI Documentation

Attach Final Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook Name Geography & Geographic Information Science

Program Code: 5587

Minor Code	5587	Conc Code	Degree Code	Major Code
------------	------	-----------	-------------	------------

Senate Approval Date

Senate Conference Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval

Date

Effective Date:

Attached
Document
Justification for
this request

Program Reviewer
Comments

Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (09/15/23 11:52 am): Rollback: Requested revisions to Justification, Instructional resources, Student Learning Outcomes, Program of Study section, and Library Resources. Email sent to Matthew, Julie.

Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (09/22/23 12:49 pm): Rollback: Rollback email sent to Matthew and Julie, to further revise the justification, instructional resources, library resources and side by side document.

Key: 489

Geography & Geographic Information Science Minor, UG

(Key: 489)

Green = Course Addition
Red = Course Removal
Yellow = Updated Text or credit hours
Orange = Order changed only
Blue = Reorder and changing requirement

Current Requirements	Current Hours	Proposed Requirements	Proposed Hours
Two courses selected from the following:	6	Two courses selected from the following:	6
ATMS/GGIS 100			
GGIS 101		GGIS 101	
GGIS 103		GGIS 103	
GGIS 104		GGIS 104	
GGIS 105			
GGIS 106		GGIS 106	
		GGIS 210	
GGIS 221		GGIS 221	
		GGIS 224	
One course in human geography, selected from the following:	3	Four 200-, 300- or 400-level GGIS courses, at least six hours of which must be at the 300- or 400-level	12
GGIS 204			
GGIS 205			
GGIS 224			
GGIS 254			
GGIS 350			
GGIS 356			
GGIS 384			
GGIS 405			
GGIS 410			
GGIS 438			
GGIS 455			
GGIS 465			
GGIS 466			
GGIS 471			
GGIS 483			
GGIS 484			
One course in physical/environmental geography, selected from the following:	3		
GGIS 210			
GGIS 222			
ESE 320			
NRES/GGIS 401			
GGIS 405			
GGIS 406			
GGIS 408			
GGIS 412			
GGIS 459			
GGIS 496			
One course in geographic information science, selected from the following:	3		
GGIS 371			

GGIS 379			
GGIS 380			
GGIS 412			
GGIS 440			
PATH 439			
GGIS 460			
GGIS 468			
GGIS 473			
GGIS 476			
GGIS 477			
GGIS 478			
GGIS 479			
GGIS 480			
One 200-400 level course selected from any of the above	3		
Total Hours	18	Total Hours	18

Cohn, Matthew S

From: Cohn, Matthew S
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 11:24
To: Cohn, Matthew S
Subject: Request for Letter of Acknowledgement

From: Nesbitt, Stephen <snesbitt@illinois.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 11:14
To: Minn, Michael <minn2@illinois.edu>
Cc: Cohn, Matthew S <mcohn@illinois.edu>; Kolak, Marynia <mkolak@illinois.edu>; Trapp, Robert <jtrapp@illinois.edu>; Choate, Jessica J <choate2@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: Request for Letter of Acknowledgement

Dear Michael,

The Department of Atmospheric Sciences acknowledges the proposed change to the GIS minor to remove GIS 100/ATMS 100 Introduction to Meteorology from the list of lower-division core courses within the minor.

Thanks,
-Steve

STEVE NESBITT
Professor and Head

Department of Atmospheric Sciences

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
3060 Natural History Building | M/C 104
1301 W Green St
Urbana, IL 61801
217.244.3740 | fax: 217.244.1752 | snesbitt@illinois.edu
www.atmos.illinois.edu



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act any written communication to or from university employees regarding university business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

 Book time to meet with me

From: Minn, Michael <minn2@illinois.edu>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2023 9:45
To: Nesbitt, Stephen <snesbitt@illinois.edu>
Cc: Cohn, Matthew S <mcohn@illinois.edu>; Kolak, Marynia <mkolak@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: Request for Letter of Acknowledgement

Stephen:

As per Jeff's e-mail below, may we have your acknowledgement of this proposed change to the GIS minor?

Michael Minn
Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science
The University of Illinois

From: Trapp, Robert <jtrapp@illinois.edu>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2023 7:22 AM
To: Minn, Michael
Cc: Kolak, Marynia; Cohn, Matthew S; Choate, Jessica J; Nesbitt, Stephen
Subject: Re: Request for Letter of Acknowledgement

Hi Michael,

Because this specifically affects ATMS, I think you'll want acknowledgement from Steve Nesbitt, as Head of ATMS. I'll provide school level acknowledgement in a separate message.

Thanks,
Jeff

> On Sep 22, 2023, at 10:26 PM, Minn, Michael <minn2@illinois.edu> wrote:

>

> Jeff:

>

> We are in the process of proposing a revision of our minor to better serve the needs of our students. As part of that revision, we wish to remove GIS/ATMS 100 Introduction to Meteorology from the list of lower division core courses so that all core courses in the geography minor cover foundational knowledge specific to our discipline. This will also allow the minor to comply with the new institutional policy on cross listed courses.

>

> If you consent to this modification, please reply and acknowledge the change so we can attach it to our revision proposal.

>

> Michael Minn
> Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science
> The University of Illinois

Dept. of Geography & Geographic Information Science

From: Dept. of Geography & Geographic Information Science
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2023 13:31
To: Tomkin, Jonathan H; Helmink, Susan
Cc: ggis-advisor@illinois.edu
Subject: Updating Geography & GIS Minor - removal of elective course lists

Good afternoon,

The Department of Geography & GIS is revising our [Minor](#) to expand the scope of the 12 elective hours, which will permit students to take sequences of advanced courses of their choosing rather than requiring minimum hours in each geographic subdiscipline. Once revised, students will select six hours of GIS core courses at the 100/200 level and 12 hours at the 200, 300, or 400 level. The following courses are listed as Physical Geography electives for the minor but will no longer be specifically listed after this revision, although students may still count them toward minor hours requirements:

ESE 320/GGIS 370: Water Planet, Water Crisis
NRES/GGIS 401 – Watershed Hydrology

Please let us know if you have questions or concerns about this aspect of the revision.

MATT COHN

Office Administrator

Department of Geography & Geographic Information Science

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2044 Natural History Building (NHB) | M/C 150

1301 W. Green Street

Urbana, IL 61801

217.300.3618 | mcohn@illinois.edu

ggis.illinois.edu



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act any written communication to or from university employees regarding university business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.