GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (HBSc)

Department of Geography

The GIS BSc offers an analytical perspective on geographical information. What you learn in the GIS program is applicable to employment in public and private sectors including public health and healthcare, urban transportation planning, natural resource management, and conservation agencies. In-depth studies — beyond basic geography — include mapping, spatial analysis, digital databases with specializations in modelling, statistical analysis and remote sensing.

Our Department prides itself in being at the forefront of the student experience at UTM. Our Faculty are very successful and active researchers who maintain research programs, laboratories, and supervise graduate students at UTM. They are also outstanding teachers, with several of our faculty being recognized with teaching awards from both inside and outside the university. We think that the wonderful opportunities and support in our Department will make your degree in GIS not only a meaningful and valuable learning experience, but also an exciting and fun one, while preparing you for a career.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POST)

- Major Program ERMAJ0305 Geographical Information Systems (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN0305 Geographical Information Systems (Science)

Check out...

What’s the connection between GIS and population health? Use GIS to map and study health information such as the spatial patterns of disease in GGR322H5. Ever considered an internship? Apply for JEG400/401 and gain hands on experience.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for Graduates: GIS/Remote sensing analyst/specialist; Spatial data analyst/ scientist; Industrial/academic research; Transportation planning.

Workplaces: Data processing; Remote sensing; Map and atlas publishers; Transportation consulting firms; Environmental research agencies; Health care; Survey firms and land developers; Mining.
# HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans). Update your plan yearly.

**1st YEAR**

**Enroll in any 100-level 1.0 credit.**

Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.

Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2nd YEAR**

**Enroll in courses GGR272H5, 276H5, 278H5 and 2.0 credits from any other 200-level GGR courses.**

Throughout your undergraduate degree:

- use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
- use the Office of the Registrar and the Geography Academic Counsellor.

**3rd YEAR**

**Enroll in courses GGR321H5 and 337H5. Attain 2.0 credits from:**

GGR311H5, 322H5, 335H5, 370H5, 372H5, 376H5, 437H5 and 494H5.

Work in a foreign lab through the iROP program. Speak to the IEC Global Mobility Coordinator. Prefer staying local? Apply to the iROP course GGR399Y. Visit the EU website for iROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

**4th OR FINAL YEAR**

**What is Experiential Education?** It means learn by doing! Gain experience designing and executing an independent senior thesis by enrolling in GGR417Y5 Honours Thesis. Speak to the GIS Program Advisor about enrolling in a course with hands on experience such GGR437H5 (Advanced Remote Sensing).

Log on to ACORN and request graduation.

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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

Guide created by the Geography Department of the University of Toronto Mississauga, 2019.
Skills developed in Geographical Information Systems

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can communicate your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

Technical: use specialized field equipment, satellite imagery and GIS and remote sensing software and programming packages, including ArcGIS, QGIS, ErDAS, ENVI, R and Python; and gain experience with computer modelling; conduct surveying and sampling; and conduct field studies.

Research: use spatial and non-spatial statistics, data management, big data applications and analysis.

Communication: data visualizations (spatial & non-spatial), with maps and graphs, summarize results of experiments; communicate across cultures; and maintain records.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Student Association for Geography and Environment (SAGE)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Department of Geography

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FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Chemical & Physical Sciences admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Make maps using GIS! In GGR272H5 students explore map rendering in the digital and mobile worlds. What are the natural and anthropogenic origins of environmental change? Find out in the physical geography course GGR112H5.

Our department prides itself in being at the forefront of student experience at UTM. Our students use equipment satellite imagery, and state-of-the-art computers and software in the GIS laboratory. We also have an active weather station on campus monitoring local weather conditions. Students can run their own project related to weather monitoring using the latest data logging instruments.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

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Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
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