



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

GEOGRAPHY- GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) MINOR

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to prepare students to engage with a complex, dynamic, and interdependent world by:

- Providing them with in-depth knowledge about human cultures and the physical world;
- Fostering intellectual and practical skills that enable analysis of spatial patterns and processes, evidenced-based problem solving, and effective oral and written communication; and
- Encouraging a sense of social responsibility through the examination of real-world cases.

Faculty are committed to preparing students for employment opportunities in the private and public sectors, the pursuit of graduate degrees, and to develop meaningful relationships to their university, professional, and local communities. We meet these goals through classroom lecture and discussion, collaborative assignments, undergraduate research, internships, field courses, and travel abroad.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who graduate from UW-Whitewater with a minor in Geography- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) will meet the following student learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of major geographical principles and concepts of:
 - Patterns and processes of physical geography relating to climate, landforms, vegetation, and soils;
 - Patterns and processes of human geography relating to population, cultural attributes, human settlement, and economic and political organization; and
- Apply intellectual and practical geographical skills:
 - Use geospatial technologies and/or field methods for analysis of and inquiry about physical and human geographical phenomena;

- Integrate geography course knowledge/skills to:
 - Think relationally about intertwined concepts such as community and economy, society and environment, and citizenship and globalization.
 - Appreciate that geography as an academic and professional discipline gathers techniques from diverse disciplines to offer important knowledge and analytical techniques that have application in exploring and solving important human problems.