

**Eastern Illinois University**  
**New/Revised Course Proposal Format**  
(Approved by CAA on 4/3/14 and CGS on 4/15/14, Effective Fall 2014)

**Banner/Catalog Information (Coversheet)**

1. ☒ **New Course** or ☐ **Revision of Existing Course**
2. **Course prefix and number:**        GEO 5000
3. **Short title:**                    GIScience Seminar
4. **Long title:**                    Geographic Information Science Seminar
5. **Hours per week:**   1 Class    0 Lab    1 Credit
6. **Terms:** ☐ Fall    ☐ Spring    ☐ Summer    ☒ On demand
7. **Initial term:** ☒ Fall    ☐ Spring    ☐ Summer    Year: 2021
8. **Catalog course description:**

This course provides students with an introduction to the history, practice and research methods in geographic information science.

9. **Course attributes:**

General education component: \_\_\_\_\_ n/a \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Cultural diversity ☐ Honors ☐ Writing centered    ☐ Writing intensive ☐ Writing active

10. **Instructional delivery**

**Type of Course:**

☒ Lecture    ☐ Lab    ☐ Lecture/lab combined    ☐ Independent study/research  
☐ Internship    ☐ Performance    ☐ Practicum/clinical    ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mode(s) of Delivery:**

☒ Face to Face    ☒ Online    ☐ Study Abroad  
☒ Hybrid, specify approximate amount of on-line and face-to-face instruction

75% online 25% F2F

11.                    Course(s) to be deleted from the catalog once this course is approved.

None.

12. **Equivalent course(s):** None

a. **Are students allowed to take equivalent course(s) for credit?**    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

13. **Prerequisite(s):**    None

a. Can prerequisite be taken concurrently? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Minimum grade required for the prerequisite course(s)? ☐

c. Use Banner coding to enforce prerequisite course(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

d. Who may waive prerequisite(s)?

☐ No one ☐ Chair ☐ Instructor ☐ Advisor ☐ Other (specify)

14. Co-requisite(s): none

15. Enrollment restrictions

a. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may take the course:

PSM in GIScience

b. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may not take the course:

all except PSM in GIScience

16. Repeat status: ☒ May not be repeated ☐ May be repeated once with credit

17. Enter the limit, if any, on hours which may be applied to a major or minor: ☐

18. Grading methods: ☒ Standard ☐ CR/NC ☐ Audit ☐ ABC/NC

19. Special grading provisions: n/a

☐ Grade for course will not count in a student's grade point average.

☐ Grade for course will not count in hours toward graduation.

☐ Grade for course will be removed from GPA if student already has credit for or is registered in:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Credit hours for course will be removed from student's hours toward graduation if student already has credit for or is registered in: \_\_\_\_\_

20. Additional costs to students:

Supplemental Materials or Software \_\_\_\_\_

Course Fee ☒ No ☐ Yes, Explain if yes

21. Community college transfer:

☐ A community college course may be judged equivalent.

☒ A community college may not be judged equivalent.

Note: Upper division credit (3000+) will not be granted for a community college course, even if the content is judged to be equivalent.

## **Rationale, Justifications, and Assurances (Part I)**

1. ☒ Course is required for the major(s) of PSM in GIScience  
☐ Course is required for the minor(s) of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Course is required for the certificate program(s) of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Course is used as an elective

**2. Rationale for proposal :**

This course will provide a common theoretical foundation for all students in the PSM in GIScience.

**3. Justifications for (answer N/A if not applicable)**

Similarity to other courses: N/A  
Prerequisites: N/A  
Co-requisites: N/A  
Enrollment restrictions: N/A  
Writing active, intensive, centered: N/A

**4. General education assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**

General education component: N/A  
Curriculum: N/A  
Instruction: N/A  
Assessment: N/A

**5. Online/Hybrid delivery justification & assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**

Online or hybrid delivery justification:

The course will be offered online to support the online delivery of the PSM which serves young professionals in the GIS field. The course may be offered hybrid to facilitate greater personal engagement depending on the geography of student enrollment. Hybrid delivery will utilize the same techniques to ensure course quality as online delivery.

Instruction:

OCDI training will be required of all instructors. The course will utilize online learning technologies including EIU's learning management system and videoconferencing technology to provide rigorous instruction and engage students in discussion and critical evaluation of research articles. Active discussion including summary presentations of important articles in analytic geography and GIScience will be a major component of the final grade.

Integrity:

Student grades will be determined on the basis of research article summaries, individual research project proposals and discussion. Written submissions will be checked for plagiarism using online plagiarism detection tools.

Interaction:

Instructor-student interaction will be facilitated through live discussion and/or active message boards. The instructor will engage in discussion questions framed around significant, thought-provoking research articles. In addition, students will be required to summarize 3-4 research articles for the class and present a research project proposal live or by video.

**Model Syllabus (Part II)**

Please include the following information:

1. Course number and title

GEO 5000: Seminar in Geographic Information Science

2. Catalog description

History, practice and research methods in geographic information science.

3. Learning objectives.

[Text in square brackets indicates corresponding EIU Graduate Learning Goals as per <https://castle.eiu.edu/eiucgs/documents/05-22GraduateAssessmentPolicy.pdf>: DCK = Depth of Content Knowledge, CTPS = Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills, OWC = Effective Oral and Written Communication Skills, AS = Evidence of Advanced Scholarship through Research and/or Creative Activity]

- A. **Critically examine different paradigmatic approaches** to analytic geography, including nomothetic vs. idiographic approaches to the discipline. (DCK,CTPS)
- B. **Identify the main thesis** of a research article and the argument, evidence or methodology supporting that thesis. (CTPS,OWC)
- C. **Locate research articles** relevant to a specific topic or problem. (AS)
- D. **Develop a research or professional project plan** involving spatial data visualization and analysis. (OWC,AS)

4. Course materials.

The course will be based on reading and discussing prominent historical and modern research articles in spatial analysis and GIScience. Examples of research articles to be distributed include:

Ellen Churchill Semple (1901). The Anglo-Saxons of the Kentucky Mountains: A Study in Anthropogeography. *The Geographical Journal*, 17(6):588-623.

Fred K. Schaefer (1953). Exceptionalism in Geography: A Methodological Examination. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 43(3):226-249.

Richard Hartshorne (1955). "Exceptionalism in Geography" Re-Examined. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 45(3):205-244.

Carl O. Sauer (1956). The Education of a Geographer. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 46(3):287-299.

Mark Graham (2010). Neogeography and the Palimpsests of Place: Web 2.0 and the Construction of a Virtual Earth. *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie*, 101(4):422-436.

Alex Singleton and Chris Brunsdon (2014). Escaping the Pushpin Paradigm in Geographic Information Science: (Re)presenting National Crime Data. *Area*, 46(3):294-304.

Paulo Raposo, Guillaume Touya and Pia Bereuter (2020). A Change of Theme: The Role of Generalization in Thematic Mapping. *International Journal of Geo-Information*, 9(371) 18pp.

Harvey J. Miller (2020). Geographic Information Science III: GIScience, fast and slow – Why faster geographic information is not always smarter. *Progress in Human Geography*, 44(1):129-138.

## 5. Weekly outline of content.

1. Overview of PSM program
2. GIScience and GIS Practice.
3. Citations & references, academic integrity
4. Assigned literature review (classical paradigms in spatial analysis)
5. Guest lecture or topical discussion
6. Assigned literature review (modern paradigms and issues in GIS)
7. Research project types and strategies
8. Searching for references
9. Guest lecture or topical discussion
10. Individual literature search and review
11. Guest lecture or topical discussion
12. Individual literature search and review
13. Research proposal design
14. GIS data acquisition
15. Project consultation
16. (final exam week) Research project proposal presentations

Students will be individually assigned articles to review in weeks 4 & 6. Student will be required to identify a research topic and locate and review articles related to this topic in weeks 10 & 12.

## 6. Assignments and evaluation, including weights for final course grade.

The final grade will be determined as a weighted average of course components as follows:

- |                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Assigned article summaries | 20% |
|-------------------------------|-----|

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 2. Individual article summaries              | 20% |
| 3. Participation in class discussion         | 20% |
| 4. Research or professional project proposal | 40% |

7. Grading scale.

Individual course components will be assigned a letter grade. The overall course grade will be computed as a weighted average using the standard 4.0-point GPA scale.

8. Correlation of learning objectives to assignments and evaluation.

[Text in square brackets indicates corresponding EIU Graduate Learning Goals as per <https://castle.eiu.edu/eiucgs/documents/05-22GraduateAssessmentPolicy.pdf>: DCK = Depth of Content Knowledge, CTPS = Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills, OWC = Effective Oral and Written Communication Skills, AS = Evidence of Advanced Scholarship through Research and/or Creative Activity]

	A. Critically examine different paradigmatic approaches (DCK,CTPS)	B. Identify the main thesis of a research article (CTPS,OWC)	C. Locate relevant research articles (AS)	D. Develop a research or professional project plan (OWC,AS)
1. Assigned article summaries (20%)	✓	✓		
2. Individual article summaries (20%)		✓	✓	
3. Participation in class discussion (20%)	✓	✓		
4. Research or professional project proposal (40%)	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Date approved by the department or school:** January 29, 2021

**Date approved by the college curriculum committee:** February 3, 2021

**Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course):**

**Date approved by CAA:**      **CGS:**