

# COLLEGE of SCIENCES

## EXECUTIVE ACTION REQUEST

EA-COS-18-30  
Effective Fall 2018

**TO:** Dr. Doug Klarup, Dean, College of Sciences  
**FROM:** Diane Burns, Chair, Department of Geology/Geography  
**DATE:** March 30, 2018

**Requested change:** To establish an accelerated Professional Science Master's program of study.

**Rationale for change:** The Graduate School has requested proposals for Accelerated Programs of Study and multiple changes – such as allowing undergraduates to take 5000+ level classes – have been passed to support this effort. Both the B.S. in Geology and the B.S. in Geography are prime programs to have coupled with the Professional Science Master's in this manner. This would encourage undergraduate students to stay an additional year at EIU and complete a Master's degree, which would be beneficial to both the students as well as to our enrollment numbers in the PSM.

**Effective Year/Term:** Fall, 2018

### **Proposed program:**

Accelerated Graduate Program Proposal:  
Accelerated Professional Science Master's (PSM) in Geographic Information Science

### **Program Admission Requirements:**

Admission to the accelerated PSM in GIScience requires that a student have completed a minimum of 60 hours of undergraduate course credit and have a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0. In addition, applicants must have completed a minimum of 21 hours of Geography or Geology courses, and have taken the following courses:

- GEO 3800 – Introduction to Cartography

and one of the following:

- GEO 3885 – Quantitative Methods in Geography
- MAT 1400 – Precalculus Mathematics
- any math course numbered higher than MAT 1400

To apply for the accelerated PSM in GIScience, applicants meeting the above requirements must submit a personal essay describing reasons for pursuing graduate study in Geographic Information Science and one letter of reference from a person outside of the Department of Geology and Geography who can speak to the applicant's ability to communicate and work independently.

### **Shared Credit Course Options for the PSM in GIScience:**

Students may share up to 9 credits between their undergraduate requirements for the BS in Geography, BS in or Geology or GIS Minor and the PSM in GISci. Students may choose from the following shared credit options:

- GEO 4910: GIS Programming. Credits: 4
- GEO 5810\*: Introduction to Geographic Information Science. Credits: 3
- GEO 5820\*: Remote Sensing I. Credits: 3
- GEO 5830\*: Building Geodatabases. Credits: 3
- GEO 5860\*: Remote Sensing II. Credits: 3

\* Students must enlist in the 5xxx version of the course to receive graduate credit.