

ENVIRONMENTAL GIS AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Banner Code: SC-CERG-EGBC

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As biodiversity is the life support system of our planet, it is important to prepare students for careers that require knowledge of both ecology and public policy. This certificate focuses in the fields of conservation biology, land use policy, conservation planning, and modern tools and approaches used in GIS to prepare students to tackle complex environmental challenges in a changing world.

This certificate is suitable for traditional students as well as for student-professionals (such as environmental scientists, managers, practitioners in government, and experts in non-governmental organizations) who wish to acquire further knowledge to advance their careers.

This certificate may be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Graduate Admissions Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) section of this catalog.

Applicants for this certificate should hold a BA or BS in a related discipline from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent.

Applicants to this certificate program must submit a current résumé. GRE scores and letters of recommendation are not required but will strengthen an application, if available.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application (<https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now/>).

Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

Requirements

Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 18

This certificate may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Refer to the Admissions & Policies for policies specific to this program.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Geospatial Requirements		
GGS 553	Geographic Information Systems	3
or GGS 692	Web-based Geographic Information Systems	
Remote Sensing Requirements		
GGS 579	Remote Sensing	3
or GGS 680	Earth Image Processing	
Conservation Requirements		
EVPP 518	Conservation Biology ¹	3
Statistics Requirements		
GGS 560	Quantitative Methods	3
or CONS 625	Generalized Linear and Mixed Models in Ecology and Conservation Biology	
Total Credits		12

1

This course may be substituted with advisor approval.

Practice-oriented Conservation Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following:		
CONS 630	Species Monitoring Conservation	6
CONS 645	Estimating Animal Abundance and Occupancy	
CONS 697	Special Topics in Conservation	
Total Credits		6