

# UNIGIS UK

## Postgraduate GIS by Distance Learning

Brochure

2009 – 2010

[www.unigis.org/uk](http://www.unigis.org/uk)



## **PgC/PgD/MSc in Geographical Information Systems**

## **PgD/MSc in Geographical Information Science**

## **PgD/MSc in Geographical Information Systems and Management**

## **PgD/MSc in Geographical Information Systems and Environment**

- Three year MSc degree
- Postgraduate Diploma available after two years
- Postgraduate Certificate in GIS available after one year
- Credit possible for prior learning and experience
- Registration annually in September
- AGI Continuing Professional Development accreditation
- Realistic fees with instalment payment options available
- Assessment by 100% coursework
- Distance learning units delivered via the WWW, including course notes, computer exercises, video and podcast presentations, interactive tutorials, WWW links and reading materials
- Four Pathways to allow you to specialise in a particular aspect of GIS or to follow a generalist path.
- Optional units within Pathways
- Access to ALL our study units, regardless of Pathway. You will receive sixteen units of study, providing a comprehensive library of GIS materials.
- Free access to ESRI authored online courses
- Tutor support for all Units and the dissertation
- Phone; Skype; video and e-mail helplines
- Internet discussion lists and e-mail forums
- Optional residential workshops
- GIS software for home use (free or at educational prices)
- UNIGIS library of key GIS texts included in course fees
- Access to online journals via university library
- Membership of SCONUL Access scheme, allowing UK-based students access to local academic libraries
- Up to five years to complete your studies

1

**These notes provide details of the UNIGIS UK PgC/PgD/MSc covering the course units; study materials; assessment and exemptions; hardware and software requirements; workshops; staff and students; and how to apply.**

# What is UNIGIS?

---

UNIGIS is a network of universities co-operating in the design and delivery of distance learning in GIS. Three UK Universities; Huddersfield, Manchester Metropolitan and Salford were the founders of UNIGIS, together with the University of Salzburg and the Free University of Amsterdam. Currently thirteen universities in eleven countries make up the UNIGIS network.

UNIGIS is the largest and best-established network of distance learning GIS programmes in the World. Each year over 500 students worldwide enrol on our courses and over fifty academic staff contribute to the worldwide UNIGIS programme.

## What is UNIGIS UK?

UNIGIS UK is a partnership between the Department of Informatics, University of Huddersfield, the Department of Environmental and Geographical Sciences, Manchester Metropolitan University, and the School of Environment and Life Sciences, University of Salford.

Our UNIGIS UK courses benefit from being able to call upon expertise from our three institutions. All three have long established reputations in the field of GIS, and have been involved in the delivery of high quality, professional GIS education for almost two decades. Our courses are presently supported by ten core academic staff, together with other specialist academic staff, support staff, and draw upon impressive GIS research and teaching facilities.

We also benefit from collaborations with eminent GIS scholars within our international UNIGIS network.

## What courses does UNIGIS UK provide?

We offer four postgraduate pathways:-

- Geographical Information Systems
- Geographical Information Science
- GIS and Management
- GIS and Environment

We register all our students initially as MSc students, an MSc qualification being an internationally recognised level of high academic achievement. Achieving an MSc usually requires three years of study. We also provide Postgraduate diploma (two year) and Postgraduate certificate (one year) exit qualifications.

## Why choose UNIGIS UK?

The strengths of our courses include:-

- Curricula designed to be relevant to GIS professionals and intending professionals. Our Pathways satisfy professional development needs and are ideal for in-service training.
- Four Pathways, coupled with optionality within pathways, allow you to tailor your programme to suit your own interests.
- Continual revision ensures the currency of the materials.
- Part of an international network of scholarship.
- Great emphasis upon support for our students. Our objective is to develop very close relationships with our distance-learning students.

# Course Calendar

## When does the course start?

## How long does the course last?

## How much study time will it take?

The PgC/PgD/MSc course starts in September each year.

The taught Diploma element of the course is a modular study programme that can be completed in two years. The MSc project is then undertaken in the third year. If, however, your circumstances change and you need to interrupt your studies, you have a maximum of five years to complete the programme.

You will need to devote about 1200 hours of study to complete the Diploma course, each twenty-credit unit being designed to require about 200 hours of student effort. This is inclusive of completing assessments.

An advantage of distance learning is that you can arrange study times to suit yourself. You may find it convenient to study a couple of hours every day, with longer sessions at weekends or, perhaps, you could have a week when you can work full time on the course, then a few weeks where it is difficult to fit in any work. Some students are able to negotiate 'study days' with their employers.

About 600 hours in total (researching, collecting data/information, literature reviewing and writing up) should be devoted to the MSc dissertation during the third year.

## Indicative Pathway Progression

Year 1	
	Induction Meeting (optional but recommended attendance)  Common Core Unit: <i>Fundamentals of GIS</i> (20 credits)  Common Core Unit: <i>Database Theory</i> (20 credits)  Common Core Unit: <i>Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality</i> (20 credits)
	Board of Examiners for PgC
Year 2	
	Common Core Unit: <i>Research Methods</i> (10 credits)  Core Unit for Specialist Award  Core Unit for Specialist Award or Optional Unit ( <i>GIS route</i> )  Optional Unit (10 credits)  <i>Workshop (Spatial Analysis Workshop may be taken as an optional 10 Credit Unit.)</i>
	Board of Examiners for PgD
Year 3	
	MSc Dissertation (60 credits)
	Board of Examiners for MSc

# Studying, Assessment and Exemptions

---

## How will I learn?

## How will I be assessed?

## How will I receive feedback and support?

## Can I get credit for prior experience and learning?

Our courses are based on student-centred learning. To support your studies we provide a variety of learning strategies and materials: World Wide Web site, downloadable study units, computer-based learning materials, core texts, online journal access, video and podcast materials, online discussion forums, workshops and helplines.

## Resources for study

Study units are delivered via our UNIGIS Web Site ([www.unigis.org/uk](http://www.unigis.org/uk)). They may be read online or downloaded to allow off-line study. They include extensive unit notes written by course tutors, exercises for you to test your understanding as you progress and details of tutor assessed exercises. The unit notes are supported by additional web pages, which provide supplementary materials, including references to other web sites, readings, tutor comments, additional software, podcasts and video clips. Unit tutors are available online to help you study.

An online 'Resource Centre' is available which provides a structured gateway to the wealth of GIS materials that are on the Web.

In addition to the UNIGIS online materials, you will be provided with GIS textbooks at the beginning of the course. Currently these are: Longley P A, Goodchild M F, Maguire D J & Rhind D W (2005) 'Geographic Information Systems and Science'; Chrisman, N (2002) 'Exploring Geographic Information Systems'; and Worboys, M F & Duckham, M (2004) 'GIS: A Computing Perspective'. We evaluate our book list each year to ensure we have the most appropriate texts.

Postgraduate students need access to professional journals and you will have access to the range of journals, datasets and other information provided

by our universities' electronic libraries. You will also have the opportunity to join the SCONUL Access Scheme, which will allow you to use the facilities at your local university library, if it also participates in the scheme.

## Assessment

The units are assessed entirely by coursework. Assessments are included with each unit and may ask you to produce reports/essays, tables, maps, diagrams or computer files for submission.

Your work will be marked by the unit tutor and returned to you with detailed feedback, to allow you to monitor your progress and improve your performance in following work.

We issue guideline dates for the submission of all coursework, which help you to progress towards completing the taught part of the course within the normal two-year period.

## Credit for prior knowledge

You may apply for exemption from a unit on the basis of prior learning, qualifications or work experience. The maximum exemption you can gain towards a PgD award is 60 credits. Requests for exemption are considered on a unit by unit basis. No exemptions are allowed for the dissertation.

## Help and support

We place great emphasis upon supporting our students. Our UNIGIS Office provides a central point of support for our students and tutors are available via phone, Skype, fax and email.

# Pathways and Units

**How are the Pathways structured?**  
**What do the Stage One units discuss?**

## Pathway summaries

	GIS	GIScience	GIS and Management	GIS and Environment
PgC in GIS	Fundamentals of GIS 20 credits	Fundamentals of GIS 20 credits	Fundamentals of GIS 20 credits	Fundamentals of GIS 20 credits
	Database Theory 20 credits	Database Theory 20 credits	Database Theory 20 credits	Database Theory 20 credits
	Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality 20 credits	Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality 20 credits	Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality 20 credits	Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality 20 credits
Pg Diploma	Research Methods 10 credits	Research Methods 10 credits	Research Methods 10 credits	Research Methods 10 credits
	GIS in Organisations 20 credits	Programming and Modelling 20 credits	GIS in Organisations 20 credits	Remote Sensing for GIS 20 credits
	Option(s) One 20 or two 10 credits	Databases for Enterprise GIS 20 credits	GIS Project Management 20 credit	Environmental Impact Assessment and GIS 20 credit
	Option 10 credit	Option 10 credit	Option 10 credit	Option 10 credit
MSc	MSc dissertation 60 credit	MSc dissertation 60 credit	MSc dissertation 60 credit	MSc dissertation 60 credit

Stage One is common to all Pathways and leads to a 'Postgraduate Certificate in GIS' if you choose to leave the programme after your first year of study.

The units that you will study in Stage Two depend upon which Pathway and which optional units you choose. The title of your 'Postgraduate Diploma' will reflect your Pathway title, as will your MSc certificate if you complete the MSc stage.

N.B. Regardless of the Pathway that you choose, you will be able to download ALL the units if you wish to do so for private study.

## Stage One – The core units

These three twenty-credit, Stage One units are common to all pathways:-

### Fundamentals of GIS

This Unit introduces the concepts and principles of GIS. It teaches you how spatial data models are used in the representation of geographical phenomena and how to evaluate the appropriateness of these models in particular application areas. The practical elements within the Unit provide familiarity with the GIS software used within the course.

### Database Theory

This Unit introduces you to the database concepts that underpin GIS technologies. The practical elements show you how to design and implement well structured databases. The unit also discusses the challenges that spatial data pose within databases and the limitations of conventional database structures as containers for spatial data.

### Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality

Data are the fuel that drives all GIS projects. In this Unit, you gain the knowledge and skills to allow you to evaluate different types of spatial data. The Unit also considers current issues relating to data standards and data quality.

# Pathways and Units continues...

---

## How do the Pathways differ?

## What do the Stage Two units discuss?

All students study the ten-credit 'Research Methods' unit at the beginning of the Second Stage. Thereafter, the units you study depend upon the Pathway you choose to follow and the Optional unit(s) you choose.

### Research Methods

A purpose of this Unit is to help you to prepare for your MSc dissertation, by encouraging you to reflect upon research issues. The Unit achieves this by discussing the research methods of the natural and social sciences and the interactions between them in GIS applications.

### The GIS Pathway

This Pathway allows you as much flexibility as possible in choosing optional units. 'GIS in Organisations' is the only compulsory Stage Two unit, thereafter, you can choose to study either one further twenty-credit unit and one optional ten-credit unit, or three optional ten-credit units.

### GIS in Organisations

This Unit focuses upon the problems that arise when using GIS within organisations and the methodologies used to address these problems. The Unit considers: Organisational issues and GIS; Information Systems Development Methods (ISDMs); Human issues; Ethics and legal issues; Public Participation GIS; and GIS beyond organisations.

The other twenty-credit options, which 'GIS Pathway' students may choose as an option, are outlined in the descriptions of the other Pathways below.

Ten-credit options are listed on page seven.

### The Geographical Information Science Pathway

This Pathway provides a deeper understanding of the technologies that are embedded within GI systems. There are two compulsory twenty-credit units and one ten-credit option. The compulsory units are:-

#### Databases for Enterprise GIS

Organisations are increasingly favouring the 'enterprise' approach to managing geographical data and so are building very large, centralised spatial databases. In this unit, you will learn about the database technologies that facilitate the development of large spatial databases. You will learn how build and interrogate spatial databases.

#### Programming and Modelling for GIS

This Unit focuses upon the issues involved in designing and implementing GIS software and GIS based models. You will also learn how to write small GIS applications and to design GIS based models. No prior programming experience is required to take this unit.

The ten-credit units are described on page seven.

### The GIS and Management Pathway

If you wish to develop a management perspective upon the use of GIS within organisational contexts, this Pathway will be appropriate for you. There are two compulsory twenty-credit units and one optional ten-credit unit. The compulsory units are:-

#### GIS in Organisations

Described in the opposite column.

# Pathways and Units continues...

---

## Project Management

You develop project management skills by studying the principles of project management and using project management tools. The unit considers: Issues in GIS project management; Project Management Methods; running a GIS project; and People issues.

The ten-credit optional units are described in the adjacent column.

## The GIS and Environment Pathway

Focussing upon the use of GIS in environmental applications, there are two compulsory twenty-credit units in Stage Two of this Pathway and one optional ten-credit Unit.

## Remote Sensing for GIS Applications

This Unit focuses upon the data sources used in remote sensing, remote sensing applications and how remote sensing integrates with GIS. The Unit considers: Principles of remote sensing; Satellite systems; Quantitative Data; and GIS Integration.

## Environmental Impact Assessment and GIS

You learn about the planning background to EIA and gain knowledge of the concepts and techniques used in the EIA process. The Unit considers: the need for EIA, its history and planning background; concepts and definitions of EIA; EIA procedure versus EIA process; critical EIA parameters; integration of elements and recent trends.

The ten-credit optional units are described in the adjacent column.

## Ten-credit optional units

If you follow the 'GIS Pathway', you can choose to study either three ten-credit Units or one ten-credit Unit and one further twenty-credit unit.

If you follow one of the other Pathways, you must choose one of the following ten-credit Units.

## Spatial Analysis Workshop

This is a workshop unit that invites you to attend a three day workshop held at Manchester Metropolitan University. The workshop explores spatial analysis techniques. (If you choose this Unit, you will need to pay your travel and subsistence costs.)

## InternetGIS

This Unit focuses upon the technologies that facilitate webGIS. You learn how to develop webGIS sites using both conventional map-server technologies and lightweight API services, such as Google Maps and Yahoo Maps. 'NeoGeography' issues, including spatial mash-ups, privacy and data quality, are also examined.

## GIS for Society

This Unit examines the use of spatial analysis as a tool to aid the understanding of societal issues.

## Visualisation and GIS

Discusses the issues involved in the presentation of spatial data, focusing upon cartographic design and map perception.

## Spatial Analysis of Health

Examines the role of spatial analysis in understanding the distribution of disease within human populations.

## Spatial Health in Practice

Focuses upon the use of GI techniques in health care delivery and disease monitoring. A case study approach is adopted.

# MSc Dissertation

---

## What is the Dissertation?

## How do I choose a research topic?

## What support will I receive?

After completing the Postgraduate Diploma, you can progress to the MSc dissertation. The dissertation provides you with the opportunity to research a topic of your own choice in some depth.

The dissertation is normally completed during your third year of study, although an additional period of study can be permitted. The dissertation itself consists of a 15,000 word report.

Many UNIGIS UK students do take up the challenge of the MSc dissertation. Those who do not remain eligible for Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma awards upon successful completion of the relevant taught units. Students from other UNIGIS centres often complete their MSc dissertations with UNIGIS UK.

## Choosing a dissertation topic

Your research topic will lie within your MSc pathway (GIScience, GIS and Management and GIS and Environment). For those students studying for the MSc in Geographical Information Systems it may be any topic within the broad field of GIS. Topics can be related to your area of work or to a particular unit. A project can have a technical, conceptual, practical or methodological focus but has to be an independent study demonstrating self-direction and originality in solving problems.

## Support for MSc students

Although the MSc Stage assumes that students will act primarily as independent researchers, we provide substantial support for our MSc students:-

## Dissertation supervisors

You will be allocated an academic supervisor, who will help you refine your research question; develop your research methodology; assist you with the finding of appropriate resources and advise you on the preparation of the dissertation. Your supervisor will be available for help and guidance throughout your project and can be contacted by telephone, letter, video and e-mail. You will be welcome to visit your supervisor and there will be opportunities for face to face discussion at UNIGIS workshops.

## MSc Induction Workshop

An optional one-day meeting is held annually at the beginning of the academic year in September. This is an excellent opportunity for students at all stages of their research to consult their supervisor, exchange ideas and solve problems.

## Extended research outline

After two months, you will submit an 'Extended Research Outline' to your tutor, so that the progress and further direction of your research can be reviewed.

## UNIGIS Office support

The UNIGIS Office co-ordinates support for dissertation students. The Office produces a Resource Pack and circulates information regarding dissertation events.

# Hardware and software

---

## What hardware will I need?

## What software does the course use?

### Hardware

You will need the following:-

- A PC with the Windows XP or Vista operating system. Hardware requirements for software packages vary but the following specification provides a guide to the type of machine you will require:-
  - A CPU speed of 1.6GHz recommended or higher Intel-based microprocessor (Pentium, Xeon or Dual Core), and 1.2GB hard disk space. A minimum of 1GB of RAM.
  - An OpenGL 1.3 or higher compliant video card, with at least 32 MB of video memory.

Most modern PCs will, at least, meet this specification.

- You will need administrator's rights on your machine.
- Broadband Internet access.

### Software

We deliberately expose our students to a broad range of GIS software in our materials. The software you will use includes:-

### Vendor software

UNIGIS currently supports three GIS software products and a vendor's programming language:-

#### ArcGIS

ArcGIS is the market-leading desktop GIS package and, with its many extensions, it provides a powerful suite of GIS functions.

You will be supplied with a free, time-limited educational copy of ArcGIS upon registration.

#### GeoMedia

You will be supplied with a free educational copy of Intergraph's GeoMedia Professional when you register. GeoMedia Pro is an attractive platform for students who want experience of a commercial product that incorporates leading-edge technologies.

#### IDRISI Taiga

If you choose to study the 'Remote Sensing for GIS Applications' or the 'Spatial Analysis of Health' Units, you will need to purchase a copy of the IDRISI Taiga system from Clark Laboratories during your second year of study, at a discounted educational price.

ArcGIS and GeoMedia are vector-based systems. IDRISI is a raster-based system, with a wide range of functionality for GIS and image processing and a unique set of functions for decision support.

#### Visual Basic.net

Visual basic.net is the programming language used in the Programming and Modelling for GIS.

Using the free Express Edition of Visual Basic, together with the open-source MapWindow GIS, students develop a small scale GIS application project in this Unit.

# Hardware and software continues...

---

## Open source software

Open Source software is important in GIS and you will learn how to use a range of leading Open Source packages as part of your studies.

We continually re-evaluate the development of Open Source products but it is likely that your Open Source GIS tutorials will be based mainly upon:-

### Database servers

MySQL is used in the 'Database Theory' Unit. PostgreSQL and PostGIS are used in the 'Database for Enterprise GIS' Unit. PostGIS provides a particularly good platform upon which to learn about a standards-based approach to spatial data handling.

### Map servers

GeoServer is used in the 'InternetGIS' Unit to explore web-mapping issues.

### Desktop GIS

uDig and Quantum GIS (QGIS) are used in both the 'Database for Enterprise GIS' and 'Internet GIS' Units, as clients for database and web-driven systems.

### GIS utilities

Sometimes described as the 'Swiss Army Knife' of GIS, the FWTools utilities are used to explore data conversion and re-projection issues.

Other Open Source GIS utilities and packages will be used within the Units as appropriate.

## Google Maps *et al*

Lightweight services such as Google Maps, Yahoo Maps, Google Earth, Microsoft's Virtual Earth and Open Layers, are revolutionising the use of spatial data.

These free-to-use services have encouraged many more users of spatial data; have encouraged novel uses of spatial data, including many spatial mashups; and are altering the ways organisations design and deploy spatial applications.

If you choose to study the 'Internet GIS' Unit, you will learn how to use these new services, the exercises being based primarily on Google Maps.

You will also be asked to assess the societal and corporate issues that these services are generating.

# Students

---

## Who studies with UNIGIS?

### What career opportunities will completing the Diploma/MSc give me?

As a UNIGIS student, you will be joining an extensive GIS community, with representatives in over 30 countries. Current and past students come from a wide range of disciplines and organisations, including local government, utilities, consultancy, GIS vendors, education and research, business and commerce.

Success on the course has been achieved by professionals from fields such as planning, surveying, IT, project management, oil exploration, environmental management, telecommunications, marketing and R & D as well as those starting their careers. Many students have gained promotion, career enhancements and new posts whilst on the course, or upon completion.

Our Units are accredited by the AGI for their Continuing Professional Development Scheme.

### Where do our students come from?

Anguilla, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Eire, Emirates, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Jamaica, India, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, South Africa, Sri Lanka, St Lucia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, USA, Zimbabwe.

### Where do they work?

Addis Ababa University  
Arnold & Carlton College  
African Conservation Centre  
Borough of Pendle  
Birmingham City Council  
British Aerospace Plc  
British Gas Exploration and Production

British Nuclear Fuels Ltd  
Cable & Wireless  
Clackmannanshire County Council  
Department of Agriculture  
Dumfries and Galloway District Council  
East Kilbride District Council  
European Commission  
Environment Agencies  
Fife Regional Council  
Fylde Borough Council  
Geodesys  
Geophysical Services  
Graphic Data Systems  
Heathrow Airport  
Hong Kong Government  
Isle of Man Government  
Joint Research Centre  
Land Registry – Ireland  
Leeds City Planning Department  
Liverpool Institute of Higher Education  
Liverpool John Moores University  
Malta Environment and Planning Authority  
Midlands Electricity Board  
Military Survey – Riyadh  
Natural Resources Institute  
National Rivers Authority  
North West Water plc  
Office of Public Works  
Oracle UK Corporation  
Ordnance Survey  
RDP Livestock Services – Ethiopia  
Redditch Borough Council  
Renfrew District Council  
Royal Mail  
Sheffield Development Corporation  
Shell UK Exploration and Production  
South Derbyshire District Council  
Telecental Communications

*And many more .....*

# What people say about UNIGIS

## Graduates' comments



**Peter Fallon:** With clear study structure, interesting and though provoking units, this course is a must for anyone wishing to advance their knowledge regarding

GIS. The tutors are excellent and dedicated to providing as much assistance as possible, and with the backup and support of the administration staff the whole experience has been a pleasure. I would wholeheartedly recommend this degree programme.

*Birmingham City Council*



**Phil Jones:** Whilst I was a student on the UNIGIS course, I was also a lecturer on another distance learning course. Having inside knowledge about how much effort

and skill it takes to design and deliver such a course, I was extremely impressed with the quality of the content and the organisation of the teaching. The course was well designed and thorough. I am now a Research Fellow in a medical school working on a Medical Research Council and Wales Office for R&D funded research project using GIS technology to explore the geography of suicide.

*Senior Research Fellow, Swansea University*



**Alan Smith:** The UNIGIS MSc programme provides both a strong theoretical and practical understanding of GIS. Having enjoyed the course myself, several of my

staff have now begun the same course.

*GI Strategy Manager, Office for National Statistics*



**Andrew Chapman:** A very worthwhile and interesting course over the last three years, which has really enhanced my current job and improved my future job

prospects.

*Product Service Manager, Corporate ICT, Leeds City Council*



**Saviour Formosa:** UNIGIS prepares students for a rapidly evolving GI world.

The course also helped to build links at international level, build up a local network of GI professionals, and inspired me to setup a national Maltese GI association called MAGI.

*Malta Environment and Planning Authority*



**Graham Whitefield:** An excellent, flexible and well-constructed course supported by helpful and knowledgeable tutors and support staff.

*Information Systems Manager, Argyll & Bute Council*

## External Examiners' comments

External Examiners are senior academics from other universities whose role is to ensure that courses maintain appropriate standards.

Here are some comments from UNIGIS External Examiner reports:-

*"The UNIGIS programme offers an excellent opportunity for students to gain a wide range of practical skills and theoretical knowledge in GIS and related geospatial technologies... The staff provide a wide range of expertise and, perhaps equally importantly, also provide students with a very pleasant, integrated, and supportive learning environment that maximizes their opportunity to benefit directly from being enrolled in this programme."*

*"This is a mature postgraduate programme and the experience of collaborative administration and teaching over three institutions developed and modified over more than fifteen years is now tried and tested."*

# Staff

---

## Who are they?

## What are their roles?

### Academic staff

Our academic staff write the UNIGIS materials and provide online support for our students. Please contact our tutors if you want to learn more about their Units:-



**Dr Richard Armitage:** Programme Leader at Salford. Unit:- *Geodata Capture, Standards and Quality*.  
[r.p.armitage@salford.ac.uk](mailto:r.p.armitage@salford.ac.uk)



**Dr James Cheng:** Unit Tutor, MMU Units:- *Visualisation and GIS; Programming and Modelling*.  
[j.cheng@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:j.cheng@mmu.ac.uk)



**Derek Reeve:** Programme Leader at Huddersfield. Units:- *Database Theory; Databases for Enterprise GIS; Internet GIS; GIS and Organisations*.  
[d.e.reeve@hud.ac.uk](mailto:d.e.reeve@hud.ac.uk)



**Prof Mark Danson:** Unit Tutor, Salford. Unit:- *Remote Sensing for GIS*.  
[f.m.danson@salford.ac.uk](mailto:f.m.danson@salford.ac.uk)



**Graham Smith:** Programme Leader at MMU. Units:- *Fundamentals of GIS; Spatial Analysis Workshop; GIS for Society*.  
[g.r.smith@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:g.r.smith@mmu.ac.uk)



**Dr Ian Drew:** Unit Tutor, MMU. Units:- *Fundamentals of GIS; Spatial Analysis Workshop*.  
[i.b.drew@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:i.b.drew@mmu.ac.uk)



**Dr Mark Cresswell:** MSc Co-ordinator, MMU. Unit:- *Spatial Analysis of Health, Spatial Health in Practice*.  
[m.cresswell@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:m.cresswell@mmu.ac.uk)



**Dr Shahed Power:** Unit Tutor, Salford. Unit:- *Environmental Impact Assessment and GIS*.  
[s.a.power@salford.ac.uk](mailto:s.a.power@salford.ac.uk)



**Dr Stephen Hoon:** Admissions Tutor, MMU Unit:- *Research Methods*.  
[s.hoon@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:s.hoon@mmu.ac.uk)



**Mel Woodcock:** Independent consultant. Unit:- *GIS Project Management*.  
[melvynwoodcock@02.co.uk](mailto:melvynwoodcock@02.co.uk)

# Staff continues...

---

## Administrative Staff

We have a central Office that deals only with our UNIGIS students and our students repeatedly tell us that the support they receive from Tracy and Linda is very important to them.

We are proud of the level of student support we provide. Tracy and Linda are available to answer your queries during office hours.



**Tracy McKenna:** Course Administrator  
[t.mckenna@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:t.mckenna@mmu.ac.uk)  
0161 247 6199



**Linda Hazel:** Administrative Assistant  
[l.hazel@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:l.hazel@mmu.ac.uk)  
0161 247 1581

## Technical Staff



**Jean Reeve:** e-Production Assistant  
[reevejn@aol.com](mailto:reevejn@aol.com)



**Jane Merrington:** Web Technician  
[j.merrington@hud.ac.uk](mailto:j.merrington@hud.ac.uk)

## Student feedback:-

*"Good support from the UNIGIS office staff"  
"Approachable and helpful staff"*

*"Friendly atmosphere and staff"  
"Excellent always support"*

*"Excellent support from UNIGIS office – really helped  
keep me motivated"*

*"Excellent support from both academic and  
administrative staff"*

*"UNIGIS Office contact/support very good"  
"Family ethos"*

# Course Fee and Payment Methods

---

## How much does a course cost?

## What do the fees include?

## What else will I have to pay for?

## How can I pay the fees?

If you start in September 2009, the complete three year programme, including the MSc, will cost £4,300.

This price includes:-

- privileged access to the WWW site
- all learning materials, course notes, selected textbooks and readings, computer based learning software, data, helpline support, assessment, feedback and certificates.
- GeoMedia Professional (educational copy)
- ArcGIS (educational copy)

This price excludes:-

- IDRISI Software: Two optional units, require a copy of the student version of IDRISI Taiga.
- Workshop/meeting expenses: if you attend the Induction Workshop; the Spatial Analysis Workshop and/or the MSc workshop, you will need to cover your travel and accommodation expenses. All workshops are held in Manchester.
- Hardware: you will need a PC as outlined on the Software and Hardware information sheet.
- Broadband access: you will need to subscribe to an Internet service provider.
- A writing up fee (currently £140) is charged for each additional year if you need to extend your registration beyond the minimum three year duration of the course.
- Binding of the MSc Dissertation: up to three copies are required at approximately £25 each.

## Payment methods

The course fee is payable either in full at the start of the course or by instalments. Please contact the UNIGIS Office for further details.

Fees can be paid by sterling cheque, direct debit, bank transfer or credit card. Alternatively, an invoice can be sent to your employer on receipt of a letter confirming that they will pay your fees.

# Applying for admission

---

**What are the entry requirements for the courses?**

**How do I apply for a place on a course?**

**How can I get answers to further questions about the courses?**

## Entry requirements

To obtain a place on the course you need:-

- an honours degree or equivalent, *or*
- an HND and relevant experience *or*
- a Foundation degree and relevant experience *or*
- relevant professional qualifications.

Each application is considered individually based on qualifications and experience. Attitude and level of commitment are important.

The course is taught and assessed in English, so if English is not your first language you will need to show evidence of proficiency in English (TOEFL at 575+, computer-based TOEFL at 233+, IELTS at 6.5).

## Start date

The courses start in September each year, although applications are invited at any time.

## How to apply

To apply for a place on the course, please complete the attached application form.

A digital version of the form is also available from the UNIGIS Web site at:-

[http://www.unigis.org/uk/how\\_to\\_apply.htm](http://www.unigis.org/uk/how_to_apply.htm)

You should return the completed form to:-

The Admissions Tutor,  
UNIGIS Office,  
Department of Environmental and Geographical Sciences,  
Manchester Metropolitan University,  
John Dalton Building,  
Chester Street,  
Manchester M1 5GD  
England

Applications can be returned by fax:-

+44 (0)161 247 6344

or by e-mail:-

[unigis@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:unigis@mmu.ac.uk)

Your application will be considered by our Admissions Tutor and you will be informed as quickly as possible whether we can offer you a place.

## Further information

If you have any further questions about the course that are not answered in these materials, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address, fax number or e-mail address above. Alternatively, you may telephone the UNIGIS office at:-

+44 (0)161 247 1581

We hope you will decide to join UNIGIS.

# Disclaimers

---

## University of Huddersfield

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information given in this document is correct at the time of publication, the University reserves the right, without notice, to make alterations in the timing and content of courses, to vary syllabuses and to cancel units. The University cannot accept any liability arising out of, or in connection with, such cancellations or alterations. The School will, however, endeavour to inform students of such changes as soon as possible.

## Manchester Metropolitan University

The provision of educational services by the Manchester Metropolitan University is subject to terms and conditions of contract and, before accepting an offer of a place at the University, you should ensure that you read these terms and conditions.

The terms and conditions cover such matters as the delivery of courses, requirements for registration with the University, and the provision of educational services as described in the University's Prospectus and in other documents dealing with teaching, examination and assessment and with the provision of academic support facilities.

You will find the terms and conditions set out in the University's Prospectus, or they may be obtained by writing to the Academic Registrar, The Manchester Metropolitan University, All Saints, Manchester, M15 6BH. You will also be provided with a copy if you are offered a place on one of the University's courses.

The quantity of tuition stated as being provided in your timetable, syllabus, course handbook or other publication to you by the University is indicative rather than definitive and the University reserves the right to vary the quantity to such an extent as it may from time to time consider appropriate.

17

## University of Salford

This document describes pathways offered by the University of Salford. Should you become a student of this institution you will receive further documents describing the teaching, examination, assessment, accommodation and other services offered by the University.

The University undertakes to use its best endeavours to provide the services referred to in this prospectus and in those further documents.

In the event that any circumstances prevent or delay the provision of the services, the University will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption, but can accept no liability to you in respect of such prevention, delay or disruption.

Any offer to you of a place at the University of Salford is made on the clear understanding that in accepting such an offer you will be deemed to have accepted the provisions of this notice as a condition of such acceptance and also as a condition of enrolment to your course.

The information provided by you as an applicant and/or enrolled student will be held by the University of Salford and may be passed to other bodies in accordance with the Data Protection act 1998 and with the University's notification with the Information Commissioner.

The University of Salford reserves the right to vary, add to or delete any of the programmes or parts thereof and any other information on matters referred to in this document at its sole discretion and without prior notice.

The University of Salford reserves the right to make additional charges for certain services. You will be notified in advance of any such charges being made.



# Application Form continues...

**If not born in the UK and if relevant:-**

Date of first entry to UK  
Date of most recent entry to UK (excluding holidays)  
Date from which you were granted permanent residence in the UK  
If you are a non-British EU national who is not living in the UK, will you have been living within the EU for 3 years by 1<sup>st</sup> September of the year in which the course

---

---

---

---

---

**Education and qualification**

Please list colleges and universities attended, including dates

---

---

---

---

Please list details of degree(s) and/or other Higher Education qualifications

Title of qualification  
University/College  
Subject  
Full-time/Part-time/Short Course  
Year of award  
Grade

---

---

---

---

---

---

Title of qualification  
University/College  
Subject  
Full-time/Part-time/Short Course  
Year of award  
Grade

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Application Form continues...

Title of qualification	_____
University/College	_____
Subject	_____
Full-time/Part-time/Short Course	_____
Year of award	_____
Grade	_____

## Employment History

<b>Present appointment</b>	_____
Date appointed	_____
Employer	_____
Position held	_____
Please give a brief description of the duties carried out in your employment that are relevant to GIS	_____ _____ _____
<b>Previous employment</b>	_____
Date appointed	_____
Employer	_____
Position held	_____
Date appointed	_____
Employer	_____
Position held	_____

## References

Please provide two referees (One from your present or previous employer and one academic referee)	
Name	_____
Address	_____ _____
Email/Fax/Tel No	_____
Name	_____
Address	_____ _____
Email/Fax/Tel No	_____

