



**Why study Geographic
Information Science?**

Increasing urbanization and mobility; multiple social networks and health data; accelerating climate change and natural disasters; all of these bring with them fundamental research challenges and ever increasing volumes of spatial data.

Geographic Information Science (GIScience for short) is at the core of research on theories, methods and tools to analyze and understand events, patterns and processes occurring in space and time.

By studying GIScience you will learn the fundamental properties of (geographic) space; how to model space; how to analyze spatial and temporal processes and relationships; how to deal with spatial data; and how to measure and interpret spatial behavior.

After finishing your degree you will be an expert in spatial data handling and analysis, data visualization, and geocomputation. You will be able to find exciting, challenging positions in academia, industry, and government.

GIScience@UZH

The University of Zurich (UZH) hosts one of the world's leading centers in GIScience. It is renowned for its research on a wide range of fields including digital cartography, mobile systems, environmental geoinformatics, geovisualization, spatial cognition, geographic information retrieval, movement and geosemantics.

The GIScience Center is part of the Department of Geography, Switzerland's largest geography department. Housed in the Faculty of Science, the department covers a wide range of geographical topics in teaching and research. More information on the department can be found at

www.geo.uzh.ch/en

The University of Zurich is Switzerland's biggest university. As a comprehensive university it offers a wide range of degree programs and courses. More information on studying at UZH is available at

www.uzh.ch/studies_en.html



Study program

The full-time program lasts 1.5 years, or 3 semesters of 30 ECTS credits. In total, 90 ECTS credits must be earned, 45 ECTS of taught courses and 45 ECTS for the Master's thesis. The courses consist of 12 ECTS of mandatory courses, at least 18 ECTS of core elective courses, and at most 15 ECTS of elective courses.

Course offerings

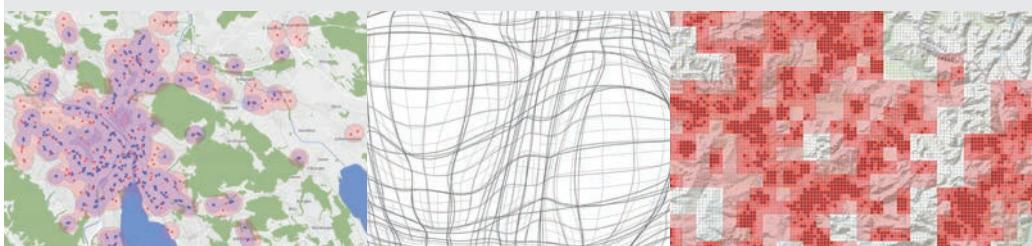
We offer two mandatory courses that each student will have to attend

- Fundamental challenges in GIScience
- Project planning, execution, and management

In addition, we offer a range of core elective courses covering the breadth of Geographic Information Science ranging from more computational to more cognitive topics, including:

- Spatial algorithms
- Spatial databases
- Retrieving geographic information
- Geovisualization
- 3D Modeling and visualization
- Advanced Spatial Analysis I
- Advanced Spatial Analysis II
- Computational Movement Analysis
- Cognitive issues in GIScience

Students who have been admitted to the program will be assigned a member of the teaching staff as a mentor. Prior to the commencement of studies, mentor and mentee will together compile an individual study plan, which consists of the courses from the offerings of the program as well as additional elective courses from the Master's offerings at the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich, or other Swiss universities.



How to apply

The application process is competitive. We accept applications once a year. Please check our website for important dates.

Before that deadline, submit the following documents (in English):

- your CV; including your academic career, any work experience you may have, and relevant extracurricular activities;
 - a transcript of your Bachelor's degree or a current transcript of your study records;
 - a letter of motivation explaining why you want to do a Master's in GIScience in Zurich;
 - a reference letter by a member of teaching staff who can report on your study performance at your current university;
 - contact details of two additional references.

A selection panel will assess and rank each application. Candidates who pass the formal requirements will be invited to an interview. In case you are admitted your Master's studies will start in the following fall semester (mid September).

More information

For further details on the application process including important dates, admission, the structure of the degree, and studying in Zurich visit our website at
www.geo.uzh.ch/msc_giscience

or send an email with your inquiries to
msc_giscience@geo.uzh.ch

