

**Trend Data for Assessment Findings, MA in Geography  
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Instrument	2012/2013 Results	Actions Taken	2013/2014 Results	Actions Taken	2014/205 Results	Actions Taken	Summary
<i>Student Self-Assessment</i>	Students indicated they were gaining confidence in what they can do as they make progress in their program of studies and that they were better researchers than a year ago GIS students could list wide range of GIS skills they learned in the past year; they thought they could use GIS more proficiently than a year ago & they could teach other people GIS skills they learned in the past year.	Faculty continuing efforts to keep up with new developments and technologies in GPS, GIS, and remote sensing and to improve student learning and stay competitive.	Overall, students' responses indicate satisfaction. Students' comments include: students should not be allowed to take 4810/5810 before they take 4800/5800; there should be more interactive learning in Cartography/GIS classes (traditional lecture format does not engage students).	Curriculum revised during 2013/2014 AY to improve student learning & increase enrollment; marketing brochure in preparation for distribution on campus, at professional meetings, & at local high schools and community colleges			
<i>Geog 5860, Geographic Inquiry</i>	Of thirteen draft-thesis proposals, three were judged to be of <b>superior</b> quality (received A), three were of <b>excellent</b> quality (received A), four were of <b>good</b> quality (received B), and three were judged to be <b>unsatisfactory</b> (received C).	Faculty continuing efforts to keep up with new developments and technologies in GPS, GIS, and remote sensing and to improve student learning and stay competitive.	Geog 5860 was not offered in 2013/2014 AY; it is offered every other year .	Geog 5860 was not offered in 2013/2014 AY; it is offered every other year .			
<i>Seminar/Master's Papers</i>	One student completed the MA in Geography without thesis option. Though the papers had few weaknesses, they were good enough to earn the student a pass grade.	Faculty continuing efforts to keep up with new developments and technologies in GPS, GIS, and remote sensing and to improve student learning and stay competitive.	<b>One</b> student completed seminar/master's paper, passed the comprehensive exam, and graduated from the MA in Geography program; paper & comp exam results were considered good.	Master's paper/thesis supervision require more work than the one-half CUE that faculty receive for the job, but faculty will continue to make efforts to help students produce quality papers/theses			

<p><b>Pretest/ Post-test in GIS Program</b></p>	<p>a) Average pretest score was 52%. The pretest helped instructor to identify basic concepts to review before delving into advanced concepts in the advanced GIS course  (b) Significant learning took place during the course of the semester; the average post-test score was 84%, higher than the criterion (<math>\geq 80\%</math>) set for satisfactory performance.</p>	<p>Faculty continuing efforts to keep up with new developments and technologies in GPS, GIS, and remote sensing and to improve student learning and stay competitive.</p>	<p>(a) Average pretest score was 62% and no student met the criterion (<math>\geq 80\%</math>) for satisfactory performance. Pretest helped instructor to identify which basic concepts to review before delving into advanced concepts in the advanced course.  (b) Significant student learning took place during the course of the semester; the average post-test score was 83%. Average post-test scores for the past seven assessment periods, except one, met or exceeded the criterion (<math>\geq 80\%</math>) set for satisfactory.</p>	<p>Pretest results were discussed in class and based on the results, instructor reviewed basic concepts before delving into advanced concepts in the advanced-level course.</p>			
<p><b>Thesis</b></p>	<p>Two topnotch students completed theses for the MA in Geography with GIS concentration; one of them landed on a job at the biggest GIS developer and vendor in the world, ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute).</p>	<p>Faculty continuing efforts to keep up with new developments and technologies in GPS, GIS, and remote sensing and to improve student learning and stay competitive.</p>	<p>One student (AnDrew Hines) completed the MA in Geography with the thesis option; another student (Valeryia Fyodorova) completed the MA in Geography with GIS concentration. One of these students (AnDrew Hines), is starting a Ph.D. program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the fall semester of 2014.</p>	<p>Encouraging responses to questions in the student self-assessment instrument, successful completion of the MA by three students, one of whom is starting a Ph.D. program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are encouraging and demonstrate the quality of our graduate programs.</p>			
