Geographic Information Systems

Map Your Way to a Successful Career

If you have ever used an Internet site that gives you driving directions and helps you find a nearby restaurant or used the Web to track when a package will arrive, then you have used Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in your daily life. If you are interested in working in this field that turns maps into super sources of information, then the GIS program is for you.

GIS, a critical component of geospatial technology, is an emerging field that is growing quickly and offers a wide array of opportunities. Working with geospatial technology, you use computers to bring together many types of data for display on a map. You might create a map that shows bicycle routes and cycle shops in a city, map locations to analyze crime or predict areas that are at risk of floods.

Projected growth in occupations related to geospatial technology is very high, an 18 to 26 percent increase, from 2006 to 2016.

– www.geospatialcareers.net

The education and hands-on experience you receive at the College in the Geographic Information Systems program is also more affordable than professional development seminars or a four-year institution.

The program provides:
- preparation to enter an exciting, emerging industry or a bachelor's degree program
- hands-on sessions utilizing up-to-date computer hardware and software
- theory and skills to manage GIS projects
- enrichment activities

The skills you learn in this program prepare you for the following careers:
- GIS technician
- surveying specialist
- database technician

Career Paths
The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education list geospatial technology on their Career Voyages Web site as an emerging industry, expected to have high growth and high demand.

According to the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, there is “substantial demand for technicians in geospatial information technology” with an associate’s degree.

The city of Philadelphia uses GIS extensively and has received several awards for its GIS activities. GIS is also used by surrounding...
Philadelphia suburbs and in major universities in the area.

GIS information is used in several areas, including business, government and higher education.

The Geographic Information Systems Program

Salaries
For entry-level GIS technicians: Salaries range from $31,028 to $45,848 with an average salary of $34,801.
For experienced GIS managers/coordinators: Salaries range from $51,850 to $81,516 with an average salary of $69,528.
– Figures from www.geospatialcareers.net

The Geographic Information Systems program, part of the Center for Law and Society, provides essential GIS theory and practical knowledge. The program also allows students to explore interests in specialized areas.

The A.A.S. in Geographic Information Systems teaches students to:
• understand the technical process behind GIS
• use basic GIS tools
• develop a portfolio of GIS work
• create and manage a GIS database
• design and complete GIS projects

The A.A.S. degree prepares graduates to apply for a job, utilize GIS knowledge in an existing job or pursue further education.

Areas of Study
This curriculum includes courses in Geographic Information Systems, Spatial Data Analysis and Mapping, Problem Solving with GIS, Computer Cartography and Remote Sensing.

Admission to the College
Prospective students are strongly encouraged to apply early prior to the start of a term in order to complete the appropriate steps for enrollment. For more information about admission to the College and important dates, including open house information, visit our Web site at www.ccp.edu, call 215-751-8010 or e-mail admissions@ccp.edu.

College Information
Visit the College Web site at www.ccp.edu to find out about:
• Academic Programs
  www.ccp.edu/site/academic/
• Admissions Process
  www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/admissions_process.php
• Transfer Agreements
  www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/transfer_agreements/
• Financial Aid
  www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/financial_aid/
• Scholarships and Awards
  www.ccp.edu/site/current/scholarships/
• College Life
  www.ccp.edu/site/current/student_life/
• Directions to the College
  www.ccp.edu/site/locations/main.php

Affirmative Action Statement
Community College of Philadelphia is committed to the principles of equal employment and equal educational opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, ancestry, creed, national or ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation/preference, religion, sex, disability or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam Era, in the administration of its educational programs, activities, or employment in accordance with applicable federal statutes and regulations. Any questions regarding this statement should be directed to the director, Office of Diversity and Equity, located in Room M2-3; telephone number 215-751-8039.