Details of approval
The syllabus was approved by Study programmes board, Faculty of Science on 2008-05-22 to be valid from 2008-05-23, autumn semester 2008.

General Information
The course is a compulsory course for second-cycle studies for a Master of Science in geographic information science.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies | Depth of study relative to the degree requirements
Physical Geography | A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Learning outcomes
On completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

- apply and compile knowledge and skills acquired within the course modules of the master's programme in geographic information science,
- analyse, treat and solve problem in the field of geographic information science and its applications,
- evaluate the methods that are studied and/or be developed
- apply scientific methodology
- design and work after a time plan
- document and present the results.

Course content
The Masters' thesis is an individual assignment, that is carried out in project form. The student chooses in consultation with a supervisor a subject for the thesis project. The subject is preferably included in one of the research projects that is carried out at the department, but this is not compulsory. The Masters’ thesis can also be carried out as a collaborative project with external departments, universities, organisations or companies. The student should solve a defined and well delimited assignment. Within the frame of the work, problems that are linked to the selected field and aims of the study are processed. The work comprises laboratory work and/or field surveys and literature studies. Attendance in seminars and guest lectures can constitute compulsory parts. The Masters' thesis includes:

- a written report in English,
- a presentation at a public seminar.

The report should be available in a version that permits review at least a month before the seminar. The department should archive the report.

Course design

If the work is carried out together with another student the area of responsibility of each student should be clearly defined and result in an assessment of each student individually.

Assessment

Presentation takes place in the form of a scientific report written in English, where rules for international publication are applied. The report should be supplemented by a scientific abstract written in English. The Masters’ thesis is presented and ventilated at a seminar with review and opposition from a member in the examining committee. Time and location for the seminar are decided by the LUMA-GIS staff in a way that minimises costs for travels.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction. Grades are given by an examining committee consisting of at least two, at most three people who also are present at the oral presentation. The supervisor assist the examining committee but is not included in this. To pass the entire course is required that both the written report and the oral presentation and thesis defence have passed the examination by the committee. The final grade are decided by joining of the results of these two parts. To pass with distinction, the work may not exceed the time plan with more than 20 %.

Entry requirements
For admission to the course is required English B and accomplished compulsory and elective courses within the frame of the LUMA-GIS program comprising of a total of 37.5 credits compulsory courses (GISA01, GISA02, GISA11 and GISN15) and 52.5 credits elective courses for second-cycle studies in geographic information science.

**Further information**

See additional rules and recommendations for degree projects at the faculty of natural sciences.
Subcourses in GISM01, GIS: Master's Degree Project

Applies from V08

0801   GIS: Master’s Degree Project, 30,0 hp
       Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction