

Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Block Transfer

between



Sir Sandford Fleming College
School of Environmental & Natural Resource Sciences
Lindsay, ON



and

Vancouver Island University
Nanaimo, BC

This memorandum of understanding constitutes an agreement between Vancouver Island University and Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Objective of the Agreement:

Vancouver Island University (VIU) agrees to facilitate the transfer of students with a Sir Sandford Fleming College Certificate of Geographic Information Systems – Applications Specialist (GIS-AS) or a Certificate of Geographic Information Systems – Cartographic Specialist (GIS-CS) into Stage 2 of the VIU Master of Geographic Information Systems Applications (MGISA) program. By this agreement, applicants from Sir Sandford Fleming College who meet the requirements outlined in Appendix I below, will be eligible for admission to VIU with full block transfer for Stage 1, provided all other entrance criteria are met and space remains available in Stage 2 of the MGISA program. Entrance to the MGISA program at VIU is on a competitive basis, so while GIS-AS/CS graduates would be granted full credit for the VIU Stage 1 component, they would be required to compete with other applicants for entry into Stage 2.

Terms of Agreement:

As a partner to this agreement, Sir Sandford Fleming College agrees:

- To notify VIU when changes to curriculum, learning outcomes, or sequencing of courses are made to the GIS-AS or GIS-CS Certificate programs.
- To include the MGISA pathway in the list of Related Programs published on relevant websites.

As a partner to this agreement, Vancouver Island University agrees:

- To provide students holding a GIS-AS or GIS-CS Certificate with recognized equivalency to VIU's Year 1 MGISA program (the Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications), thus providing a pathway directly into MGISA Year 2.
- To notify SSFC when changes to curriculum, learning outcomes, or sequencing of courses are made to the VIU ADGISA or MGISA programs.

Exchange of Information:

Both parties will update the other with respect to changes in their courses and programs that are anticipated or approved.

Both parties agree to make information about this arrangement available to their respective relevant institutional departments and students.

Implementation of this agreement will be through the Registration Office at each institution, in consultation with the appropriate administrators in the respective programs.

Duration and Termination of the Agreement:

This agreement shall be in place for a period of five years commencing September 1, 2016, with an initial review scheduled to take place in September 2017, followed by a regular review and renewal cycle of five years. If there are impediments to renewal, VIU will notify the transfer partner of the impediments, with the goal of negotiating a new agreement. Final approval of the agreement will remain with the Provost's Office at VIU.

This MOU may be terminated by either Party at any time provided that the terminating Party gives written notice of its intention at least six months prior to termination.

Vancouver Island University retains the right to limit the number of students admitted under this agreement.

On behalf of Sir Sandford Fleming College, School of Environmental and Natural Resources Sciences,



Laurel Schollen, VP Academic May 16/2016
Date



Dr. Linda Skilton, Dean/Principal, Frost Campus May 16, 2016
Date

On behalf of Vancouver Island University,



Dr. David Witty, Provost and VP Academic May 02/16
Date



Dr. John Black, Dean of Social Sciences APR 28/16
Date

Appendix I: Vancouver Island University's Master of GIS Applications.

The Program

The Master of Geographic Information System Applications (MGISA) Program builds on the existing Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications (ADGISA) Program by providing opportunities for students to strengthen their GIS skills, enabling them to compete more effectively and for better positions in the job market.

The program consists of two stages; each stage has 30 credits. Stage 1 involves the same courses as the current Advanced Diploma, and is available both face-to-face and online; the Stage 2 courses will be delivered online, with face-to-face or online supervision and defence of the research project.

The program combines a strong academic foundation with professional skills by requiring both academic courses (including labs and seminars) and a research project, thus generating an intellectual environment in which students can enhance their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the area of Geographic Information Science.

Admission Requirements

Stage 1 Admission Requirements

- A Bachelor's degree in any discipline.
- Satisfaction of [VIU's International Student English Language Requirements for Academic Programs](#)
- Significant previous experience or training in GIS including completion of an introductory GIS course from an accredited post-secondary institution.
- A letter of intent that includes:
 - a summary of academic and professional experience; and
 - a statement of career goals; and
 - a description of the research topic which the applicant wishes to pursue.
- Two letters of reference.
- Participation (if requested) in an interview conducted by the Admissions Committee.

Stage 2 Admission Requirements

Completion of Stage 1 does not guarantee acceptance into Stage 2. For all students, acceptance into Stage 2 will be based on:

- Meeting the program's 'Stage 1' admission requirements
- Completion of Stage 1, VIU's Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications (ADGISA), or an equivalent post-graduate GIS diploma program with a minimum grade of "B" in all GIS diploma courses.
- Satisfactory assessment of the intended research topic, to ensure its complexity is appropriate for a Master's level of study and that the scope of work is achievable within the duration of the program.

Recommendations for Admission

Incoming MGISA students must have a strong technical background in GIS to ensure they are capable of handling the advanced techniques and topics studied in the program coursework and required of the research project.

Notes on Admission

Admission into the program is competitive. Enrolment is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program. Students entering the program who have completed the VIU Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications (ADGISA) or an equivalent post-graduate GIS diploma will be eligible to apply directly to Stage 2 of the MGISA program. Students admitted to the MGISA program may be able to complete the program on a part-time basis. Students interested in studying part-time are advised to contact the department to discuss possible part-time options.

Articulation of Courses between VIU ADGISA (Stage 1 of MGISA) and SSFC GIS-AS/CS Certificates:

VIU Advanced Diploma in GIS Applications	SSFC GIS-AS/CS Certificate
<p>GEOG 501: Foundations of GIS</p> <p>GEOG 511: Geodatabases</p> <p>GEOG 521: General Spatial Analysis</p> <p>GEOG 523: Advanced Applied Spatial Analysis</p> <p>GEOG 531: Visual Programming for GIS</p> <p>GEOG 581: Management Issues in GIS</p> <p>GEOG 591: GIS Applications Project: Practicum</p> <p>GEOG 593: Internet GIS</p>	<p>GEOM0101: Web Design and Programming</p> <p>GEOM0102: Geovisualization I</p> <p>GEOM0065: GIS Database Principles</p> <p>GEOM0066: Remote Sensing and Image Analysis</p> <p>GEOM0067: Problem Solving and Programming</p> <p>GEOM0103: Spatial Analysis I</p> <p>GEOM0104: Geodesy</p> <p>GEOM0021: Surveying and CAD Mapping</p> <p>APST0087: Survey Camp</p> <p>GEOM0075: Advanced Remote Sensing</p> <p>GEOM0068: GIS Collaborative Project Planning</p> <p>GEOM0099: Web GIS Development</p> <p>GEOM0105: Environmental Modeling</p> <p>GEOM0070: Database Development</p> <p>GEOM0073: Customization of GIS Applications</p> <p>GEOM0109: Spatial Analysis II</p> <p>GEOM0106: Geovisualization II</p> <p>GEOM0107: Web Communication</p> <p>GEOM0108: Municipal Mapping and GIS</p> <p>APST0062: GIS Collaborative Project</p> <p>GEOM0111: GIS Data Management</p> <p>GEOM0110: Geovisualization III</p>

*Sir Sandford Fleming College graduates with either a GIS-AS Certificate or a GIS-CS Certificate qualifies for block transfer of the VIU ADGISA courses listed.