UNIVERSITY COLLEGE of the FRASER VALLEY

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2001
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2006
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: September 2009
(Four years after UPAC final approval date)

OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.
Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department and the material will vary - see course syllabus available from instructor

FACULTY/DEPARTMENT: **Geography**

GEOG 253	**N/A**	**4**
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FORMER COURSE NUMBER	UCFV CREDITS

INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

A geographic information system is defined as a configuration of system hardware and software that captures, stores, analyzes and displays geographic information. The focus of this course is on the theory and practice of GIS as a tool in geographical analysis, data management, and the development of skills in the operation of GIS software.

PREREQUISITES: Any first year university course.
COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S)
(a) Replaces: _____ *(Course #)*
(b) Cannot take: _____ *(Course #)* for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: _____ *(Department/Program)* _____ *(Department/Program)*

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: **60**
STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures:	**23**	Hrs
Seminar:		Hrs
Laboratory:	**37**	Hrs
Field Experience:		Hrs
Student Directed Learning:		Hrs
Other (Specify):		Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION
LENGTH OF COURSE: _____
HOURS PER DAY: _____

MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT: **25**
EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS: **Once every semester**

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)	☒ Yes	☐ No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)	☐ Yes	☒ No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:	☒ Yes	☐ No

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

Course Designer(s): John Belec
Chairperson: Raymond Welch *(Curriculum Committee)*
Department Head: Dr. Sandy Vanderburgh
Dean: Dr. Eric Davis
PAC Approval in Principle Date:
PAC Final Approval Date: September 30, 2005

LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Identify the role and usefulness of GIS as a tool in geographical analysis and data management.
2. Understand the theoretical base of GIS, i.e., the methodology of representing and managing map features.
3. Develop competency in the operation of GIS software.

METHODS:

The course will be offered in a lecture / lab format

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:) ☒ Yes ☐ No

METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:

Portfolio assessment, exams or other methods as appropriate

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

Environmental Systems Research Institute, (1998) Getting to now ArcView GIS

Keith C. Clarke (1997) Getting Started with Geographical Information Systems (Prentice-Hall)

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

N/A

STUDENT EVALUATION:

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Lab assignments and projects	40-60%
Exams	40-60%

COURSE CONTENT:

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

1. The origins and definitions of GIS.
2. Uses (and abuses) of GIS in geographical problem-solving.
3. GIS and cartography: cartographic fundamentals.
4. Theory and methodology of GIS: an overview of concepts and terminology.
5. Charateristics of geographic data; sources of data for GIS.
6. Attribute data management.
7. Mapping socio-economic data.
8. Mapping environmental and natural resource data.
9. Spatial data models.
10. Geocoding.
11. Social implications of GIS: GIS and the future of Geography.