Geography & Environmental Studies, M.A.

Overview
The program is designed for students with various academic backgrounds who are interested in a career which spans the human and natural environments – the social and physical sciences – and who desire the spatial analytical skills of geography. Graduate students develop an area of proficiency within the broad scope of human-environment interactions and/or within the geographic realm of spatial analysis. The program is both theoretical and practical; students gain knowledge, conceptual skills and technical skills. The program provides a solid basis for a career, a career shift, career enhancement, or preparation for post-graduate studies. **Credit hours required: 33**

Admissions
Applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to the College of Graduate Studies and Research. Applicants must have the equivalent of an undergraduate minor in Geography & Environmental Studies, or will be required to take extra undergraduate coursework prior to full admission. Students must provide a typed two-page Statement of Goals and Objectives as part of their application. This statement should demonstrate the student's writing skills and should specify as clearly as possible academic/professional goals and the reasons for selecting the G&ES program of study. **GRE: Not required**

Program of Study

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required Courses:</th>
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<tr>
<td>GES-411 Scope and Philosophy of G&amp;ES .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 413 Advanced Research Methods .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<td>TWO OF</td>
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<td>GES 391: GIS 1 .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<td>GES-442 Quantitative Research Methods .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>GES 440 Qualitative Research Methods .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<td>ONE OF</td>
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<td>GES-430 Research Seminar or .......... 3 cr.</td>
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<td>GES-431 Thesis Seminar .......... 6 cr.</td>
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<td>Approved Electives .......... 15/18 cr.</td>
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<td><strong>Total 33 cr.</strong></td>
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Students must write either a thesis (6 cr.) or major research paper (3 cr.) and pass a Comprehensive Exam (research paper option) or Thesis Defense (thesis option).

**Subject to change. See current University catalog for up-to-date information.**

Careers
• Environmental planning and management in government, industry, and non-profit organizations
• Environmental education and nature interpretation
• Geographer
• Environmental professional
• Regional planner
• Industrial Development Specialist
• Research Analyst
• Geographic Information Systems Specialist

Attending Northeastern
• Classes are offered during the late afternoon and evening hours to accommodate professionals working full-time
• Students may attend either part-time or full-time
• Current in-state graduate tuition is less than $400 per credit hour (tuition & fees)
• Financial support: Financial aid (loans), merit tuition scholarships, and graduate assistantships are often available to help fund your graduate education. Contact us for further details.

Contact Us
Give us a call: (773) 442-6001
Email us: graduateadmissions@neiu.edu
Visit us at the Graduate Admissions office:
M-Th: 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Fri: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
5500 North St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625
Room D-101D
Visit our website: www.neiu.edu/graduatestudies

**WHAT’S NEXT?**
**M.A. IN GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

**Newsweek magazine has named Northeastern Illinois University the Sixth Best Investment among all universities in the nation and number one in Illinois.**