UF Geomatics @ Fort Lauderdale Newsletter

Program News
Thank you to our students, stakeholders, and staff who have contributed so much time and energy into making 2021 another productive year for the University of Florida Geomatics Program @ Fort Lauderdale REC!

In March, the academic departmental home of the Geomatics program was renamed to the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences. This is an exciting change envisioned by our program founder, Dr. David Gibson, that has come to fruition.

In November, the UF Geomatics program received a 6-year National Science Foundation (NSF) award to increase STEM degree completion amongst low-income, high-achieving undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. We are excited to start offering these scholarships to deserving transfer students from our partner colleges across Florida.

Hybrid is the most accurate way to describe our involvement in outreach and research events as we navigated the ever-changing dynamics of the pandemic. The Geomatics program participated in numerous events that were entirely virtual (e.g., ASPRS, Career Construction Days, NEARC). Meanwhile, we attended in-person regional events when opportunities arose including hosting FSMS meetings, presenting to county agencies, and participating in annual regional events (e.g., South Florida GIS Expo, FSMS conference). We are hopeful that in-person opportunities for reconnecting with our geospatial community will only increase in 2022.

Congratulations are in store for all of our newest graduates, especially: Michael Blaize (BS), Ryan Bradley (BS), Eli Brossell (MS), Michael Klassen (MS), Sam Robinson (MS), Jerome Small (MS), and Angela Schirck-Matthews (PhD)!

Lastly, we welcomed Jiping Cao to our group in August as a PhD Graduate Assistant. Jiping will be focusing his research efforts on spatial analysis of VGI.

We look forward to connecting with you again in 2022! Happy Holidays!

Registration for Spring 2022 courses is now available. Contact us today for an advising appointment!

December 2021

Important 2022 Dates
• Jan. 5: Spring classes begin
• Feb. 1: Undergrad. admission app. deadline (Sum. C)
• Apr. 15: Undergrad. admission app. deadline (Fall)
• Apr. 29-30: Spring commencement
• May 9: Sum. A/C classes begin
• Aug 24: Fall classes begin

Selected Geomatics Publications
• Benjamin et al.: Monitoring the Efficacy of Crested Floatingheart (Nymphoides cristata) Management with Object-Based Image Analysis of UAS Imagery
• Brazeal et al.: Investigating Practical Impacts of Using Single-Antenna and Dual-Antenna GNSS/INS Sensors in UAS-Lidar Applications
• Mandourah & Hochmair: Comparison of spatiotemporal contribution patterns among three crowd-sourcing drone platforms
• Schirck-Matthews & Hochmair: Comparison of cycling path characteristics in South Florida and North Holland among three GPS fitness tracker apps

Recent Awards
• Innocensia Owuor received the Paul Wolf Memorial Scholarship from ASPRS and the Jack A. Falk III Scholarship for Everglades Conservation, Restoration and Sustainability. She also received a scholarship from the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation to conduct her dissertation research in Austria in spring 2022.
• Adam Benjamin received the 2021 Young Professional Surveyor and Mapper of the Year award from FSMS.
Transitions: Farewell Adam and Welcome Youssef

With a new year comes new beginnings. Adam Benjamin is departing for the northeast US as part of a family-oriented relocation. On behalf of the entire Geomatics program, we thank him for his efforts in building the Geomatics Program @ Fort Lauderdale over the past decade. With this change, we are excited to have Youssef Kaddoura join our group as the new Geomatics Specialist in January 2022. Welcome, Youssef!

A Message to Prospective Undergrad Students

The University of Florida’s Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center (FLREC) offers a 4-year, ABET accredited degree, the Bachelor of Science in Geomatics, which fully prepares graduates for professional licensure in the state of Florida and beyond. We are located 1 mile off Interstate 595 in the NW corner of the South Florida Education Center (Directions).

Our program is designed for both full-time and working students. Students registered at our campus can participate in on-site field work and join live or recorded lectures from the home/office via video conferencing technology. Our lab courses, which typically occur in the evenings or on Saturdays, are flexible to accommodate student work schedules.

We recommend that students:

1. Obtain an Associate of Arts degree (AA) from a Florida college to complete all UF general education requirements
2. Satisfy their AA with the prerequisite courses required for admission to the Geomatics Program (listed on the right.) By taking these courses while earning their AA, students can be admitted faster into the Geomatics Program.

Geomatics courses can be taken as either a certificate or non-degree seeking student prior to degree admittance but some limitations apply. Please contact us to find out if the certificate or non-degree seeking route will work for you.

Each semester students can apply for various college scholarships and internships. We encourage all students to apply for our local scholarships as well as those at the regional and national levels (e.g., FSMS, ASPRS, & NSPS scholarships). So, what are you waiting for? Contact us today to see how we can change your future!

Contact:

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If you do not wish to receive further newsletters from the Fort Lauderdale Research & Education Center Geomatics Program, please send an e-mail to geomatics-flrec@ifas.ufl.edu.

UF GEM @ FLREC Benefits

- UF degree (BS, MS, PhD) without going to Gainesville
- Numerous scholarships & internships
- Modern equipment & software
- Flexible scheduling
- Reduced fees
- Ability to take distance education courses from the comfort of home
- Well-connected to local industry

Undergrad Geomatics Admission Prerequisites

1. SPC2608 – Public Speaking
2. PHY2053/PHY2053L – Gen. Physics 1 + Lab (or PHY2048/PHY2048L)
3. PHY2054/PHY2054L – Gen. Physics 2 + Lab (or PHY2049/PHY2049L)
4. STA2023 – Statistics
5. MAC 2311 – Calculus I (or MAC1114 + MAC2233 – Trigonometry + Business Calculus)
6. ECO2013 – Macroeconomics (or ECO2023 – Microeconomics)
7. COP#### – Advisor Approved Programming Course (Python, C++, Visual Basic, Java, etc.)

Areas of Study

- Professional Surveying
- Geospatial Analysis
- Photogrammetry & LIDAR
- Unmanned Aerial Systems
- GIS & Remote Sensing
- Cartography
- Cadastral Science
- Spatial Analysis
- Land Development
- Geospatial Intelligence