USGIF Geospatial Intelligence Certificate

Saint Louis University is currently seeking accreditation with the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF) to allow students to apply for a Geospatial Intelligence Certificate from the USGIF. The USGIF program focuses on preparing students as GEOINT practitioners to meet the increasing needs of the geospatial industry and federal intelligence agencies.

If approved, students interested in applying to the USGIF for the GEOINT certification would need to complete the following four courses:

- GIS-4010/5010: Introduction to GIS
- GIS-4020/5020: Geospatial Data Management
- GIS-4040/5040: Introduction to Remote Sensing
- GIS-4960/5970: GIS Capstone/Research Topics

Undergraduate students seeking certification would need to complete two additional courses and graduate students will need to complete one additional course from a specified range of geospatial electives. These elective options include:

- GIS-4060/5060: Geospatial Methods in Environmental Studies
- SOC-4670/5670: Spatial Demography: Applied Statistics for Spatial Data

Additionally, students have to take GEOINT certificate exam administered by USGIF.

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in certificate-related courses and must earn a C or better in each certificate-related course.

Students applying to receive the certificate will need to maintain an online portfolio showcasing their learning in certificate-related courses, including the capstone.

The USGIF GEOINT Certificate requirements develop the following competencies:

- GIS & Analysis Tools,
- Remote Sensing & Imagery Analysis,
- Geospatial Data Management,
- Data Visualization,
- Cross-Functional Competencies (critical thinking, synthesis, and reporting),
- Emerging Competencies (AI/ML, computer vision, AR/VR, and UAVs).
Students at Saint Louis University can complete either undergraduate or graduate GIS certificates as a part of their academic program. The SLU undergraduate and graduate GIS certificates focus on foundational geographical skills and tools, plus detailed study of specific mapping technologies, such as remote sensing and SAR and of specific geospatial applications, such as remote sensing, biology and demography. Our GIS certificates are designed for students seeking careers as highly skilled mapping practitioners and imagery scientists in a broader geospatial field.

Although some of the relevant coursework overlaps with our GIS certificates, the USGIF certificate-related courses include an emphasis on elective courses on analysis and interpretation of geospatial data, programming, database management and generation of intelligence-style products in addition to foundational geographic skills. The GEOINT certificate electives and capstone also provide instruction on geospatial intelligence based on analysis of geospatial data, using modules from the USGIF “Intro to GEOINT” course. The coursework that can be used to apply for the USGIF GEOINT certificate is structured for students seeking careers as analysts of complex geospatial data.

This website will be updated soon with full course descriptions of the core courses and selected electives that would allow a student to apply for the GEOINT Certificate.