

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Remote Sensing
CODE NO. : GIS422 **SEMESTER:** 13F
PROGRAM: Geographic Information Systems Applications Specialist
AUTHOR: Heath Bishop
DATE: May, 2013 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** May, 2012

APPROVED:

DEAN **DATE**

TOTAL CREDITS: 4

PREREQUISITE(S): None

HOURS/WEEK: 5

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Remote sensing can be defined as the interpretation of images taken at a distance from the object viewed. In this course, the student will gain a theoretical background in remote sensing and a practical ability in the PCI Geomatica and ArcGIS software environments. Topics to be covered include: remote sensing physics, data sources, visual imagery, image enhancement and filtering, multispectral classification, feature extraction, data import and export and GIS integration, georeferencing and mosaicing aerial photographs, orthorectification and LIDAR imagery.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Explain the foundations of optical remote sensing

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe remote sensing energy sources and radiation principles
- Describe the colour mixing process
- Describe the electromagnetic spectrum
- Describe energy interactions with earth surface features
- Describe characteristics of ideal and real remote sensing systems
- Explain the appearance of features on remote sensing images
- Locate Earth-surface features on different band combinations

2. Describe remote sensing applications and sensors

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe optical, LIDAR and thermal remote sensing applications
- Describe the Landsat program
- Describe meteorological, continental and ocean monitoring satellites

3. Perform Visual Image Interpretation

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe interpretation methods
- Become familiar with Google Earth Pro and how it can be used as an aid in visual interpretation

4. Filter and enhance remote sensing imagery

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Apply filters to remote sensing imagery
- Enhance remote sensing imagery

5. Review the statistical nature of remotely sensed imagery

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Perform and analyze data views, image histograms, scatterplots and low-level classifications
- Apply band mathematics and image transformations (band ratios, vegetation indices and principle component analyses) to imagery

6. Perform image classifications

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Collect regions of interest as classification training data
- Complete a supervised classification
- Complete an unsupervised classification
- Transfer classifications to a GIS environment
- Feature extraction

7. Perform Classification Accuracy Assessment

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Determine statistical accuracy of classifications

8. Perform Georeferencing and Mosaicing

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe RMS and Residual Error
- Describe GCPs
- Work with mosaic cutlines and colour balancing

9. Interpret LIDAR Data

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Describe, load, manage and interpret LIDAR data

10. Perform Various Change over time Analyses

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Undertake a visual change over time analysis
- Undertake a digital change over time analysis

III. TOPICS:

1. Optical Remote Sensing

- Energy sources and radiation principles
- The electromagnetic spectrum
- Atmospheric and Earth-surface energy interactions
- The colour mixing process
- Ideal and real remote sensing systems
- Visual interpretation of remote sensing imagery
- Interpreting different band combinations

2. Remote Sensing Applications

- Optical and radar remote sensing applications
- The Landsat, SPOT, IRS and Radarsat programs
- Meteorological, continental and ocean imaging satellites
- Hyperspectral scanners and airborne lasers
- Aerial photography
- Thermal remote sensing

3. Visual Image Interpretation

- Identify various types of physical features from a remote sensing perspective
- Use Google Earth Pro as an aid in image interpretation

4. Filtering and Enhancing Remotely-Sensed Images
 - Filtering imagery
 - Enhancing imagery
5. Performing Statistical Analysis on Remote Sensing Imagery
 - Image histograms
 - Scatterplots
 - Low-level classifications
 - Band mathematics
 - Image transformations
6. Performing Image Classifications
 - Regions of interest
 - Supervised classification
 - Unsupervised classification
 - Post-classification processing
 - GIS transfer
7. Accuracy Assessment
 - Perform statistical accuracy assessments on classification data
8. Georeferencing and Mosaicing
 - Collect GCPs
 - Rectification
 - Mosaic Images
9. LIDAR
 - LIDAR Returns
 - Accuracy
 - Physics of LIDAR
 - Applications

10. Change over time analysis

- Visual change over time and incorporation into GIS software
- Digital change over time

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

None

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Laboratories (6)	50%
Mid-Term	25%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Note: Students must achieve an average mark of at least 50% on the Test/Exam components to pass the course.

Note: All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the scheduled due date, or will be subject to a 10% penalty. Each subsequent day that the assignment is not handed in by 8:30am is an additional 10% deduction.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	2.00
C	60 - 69%	1.00
D	50 – 59%	0.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	

NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

Course Outline:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

VI. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.