

Unit and programme catalogues

University of Bristol

Programme structure: Geographic Data Science and Spatial Analytics (MSc) - what's running in 2024/25

Please note: Programme and unit information may change as the relevant academic field develops. We may also make changes to the structure of programmes and assessments to improve the student experience.

This section describes which Units you will take in which year of study. It indicates which units are mandatory and where you will be able to choose. The overall pass marks you will need to achieve in order to progress or achieve an award are shown. The full regulations concerning progression and completion are held in the [University's Regulations and Code of Practice](#). Any particular aspects of your programme that are unusual will be highlighted. If any Units are must pass this will be shown below. The linked unit specifications detail any additional requirements.

[What do the Levels represent?](#)

[What do the teaching blocks \(TB\) mean?](#)

- [Year 1 \(2024/25\)](#)

The following units are must pass for the award of an MSc: GEOGM0068 Geographic Information Retrieval and Integration; GEOGM0054 Introduction to Scientific Computing; GEOGM0055 Urban Analytics and City Science

For the definition of must pass units please see the Glossary of Terms from [Annex 1](#) to the Regulations and Code of Practice for Taught Programmes.

Unit name	Unit code	Credit points	Status	Teaching Block
Students must take the following units:				
Dissertation: MSc Geographic Data Science and Spatial Analytics	GEOGM0056	60	Mandatory	AYEAR
Urban Analytics and City Science	GEOGM0055	20	Mandatory	TB-1
		180		

Unit name	Unit code	Credit points	Status	Teaching Block
Data Science and Machine Learning in Geography	GEOGM0053	20	Mandatory	TB-2
Introduction to Scientific Computing	GEOGM0054	20	Mandatory	TB-1
Geographic Information Retrieval and Integration	GEOGM0068	20	Mandatory	TB-2
Select 40 credit points from the following:				
Qualitative Research Methods in Human Geography	GEOGM0041	20	Optional	TB-2
An Introduction to GIS and Remote Sensing for Environmental Policy and Management	GEOGM0013	20	Optional	TB-2
Quantifying Climate Risks	GEOGM0045	20	Optional	TB-2
Mapping and Modelling Geographic Data in R	GEOGM0046	20	Optional	TB-1
		180		

Progression/award requirements

The pass mark set by the University for any level 7 unit is 50 out of 100.

For detailed rules on progression please see the [Regulations and Code of Practice](#) for Taught Programmes and the relevant faculty handbook.

Degree classifications:

An award with Merit or Distinction is permitted for postgraduate taught masters, diplomas and certificates, where these are specifically named entry-level qualifications. An award with Merit or Distinction is not permitted for exit awards where students are required to exit the programme on academic grounds. An exit award with Merit or Distinction may be permitted where students are prevented by exceptional circumstances from completing the intended award.

The classification of the award in relation to the final programme mark is as follows:

Award with **Distinction***: at least 65 out of 100 for the taught component overall and, for masters awards, at least 70 out of 100 for the dissertation. **Faculties retain discretion to increase these thresholds.

Award with **Merit***: at least 60 out of 100 for the taught component overall and, for masters awards, at least 60 out of 100 for the dissertation. Faculties retain discretion to increase these thresholds.

* The MA in Law has separate regulations for awarding distinction and merit.

** For the award of Distinction, the Faculty of Engineering requires at least 70 out of 100 for the taught component overall and, for masters awards, at least 70 out of 100 for the dissertation.

Diploma/certificate stages:

All taught masters programmes, unless exempted by Senate, must allow the opportunity for students to choose, or be required, to leave at the postgraduate diploma or certificate stage.

To be awarded a postgraduate diploma, students must have successfully completed 120 credit points, of which 90 must be at level 7.

To be awarded a postgraduate certificate, students must have successfully completed 60 credit points, of which 40 must be at level 7.

Related links

[Structure by entry cohort](#)

[Specification](#)

[Programmes available in the School of Geographical Sciences](#)