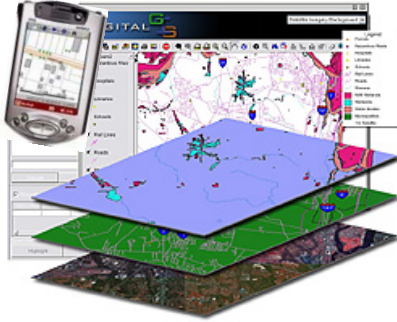


Geographic and Land Information Systems (GIS/LIS)

A new science is emerging known as Geographic and Land Information Systems (GIS/LIS), or just **GIS** – The acronym GIS is also developing into a new name known as GIScience.



GIS works by inputting geographic data layers into a computer GIS software program that can manipulate the data into different forms of graphic communications; the **map** being the most common. The map is then used to assist in the decision making process, or used as resource inventory documents.



The University of Akron's GIS/LIS Associate Degree Program is designed to prepare graduates to enter the job market as GIS/LIS technicians for business and industry. Emphasis of the curriculum is on understanding digital geographic data, hand-on software use in solving geographic problems and graphic communications techniques.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: The GIScience is exploding into all sciences that use geographic data; examples include Homeland Security for National Defense plans and inventories, Medical Technology to track diseases and potential medial problems, and the national mapping agencies such as the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Census Bureau, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to maintain national resource inventories - to name a few. At the local level, many county governments have and are initiating GIS offices for county inventories, tax maps, crime prevention, emergency response and fire protection. As GIS functions become more complex and technology based, the **demand** for highly trained GIS technicians continues to grow at an ever expanding rate. Career opportunities in today's GIS environment have never been more exciting or more challenging!

**If you enjoy computer graphics and making maps – give this degree a try!
Start with an Introduction to GIS/LIS class under the 2985 number.**