SPRING 2011
Majors: Information Sys/Sci/Tech, Biology, and Civil Engineering

CIS 4850C / CIS 5870C - Introduction to Spatial Information Systems
4 credits, CRN #12052 / #12053, Fridays (Noon – 2:50pm) and a 3-day Field Exercise (TBA)

- This course will provide both knowledge of the basic principles and theory that form the basis for GIS and related spatial technologies, and an understanding of the practical application of GIS.
- This is a multi-disciplinary course with a significant focus on developing practical skills related to both GIS software and GPS-enabled mobile computing devices.
- Each student will actively contribute to the design and implementation of the class project which will be focused on building a GeoDatabase for a local park.
- The “laboratory” portion of this 4-credit course requires participation in a Weekend Field Exercise, in which the field data for the class project will be collected.
- No Pre-reqs for Biology or CE majors. IS & IT majors must have passed Data Structures.
- Note: CIS4850C can be used as an IS or IT major elective (not a CS elective.)

What is a GIS?
- A geographic information system (GIS) integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.
- GIS allows us to view, understand, question, interpret, and visualize data in many ways that reveal relationships, patterns, and trends in the form of maps, globes, reports, and charts.
- A GIS helps you answer questions and solve problems by looking at your data in a way that is quickly understood and easily shared.
- GIS technology can be integrated into any enterprise information system framework.

YOU WILL GAIN KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS THAT WILL HELP YOU GET A JOB!
- This technology has become a critical component of decision making in government agencies and business, and an essential tool for many scientific disciplines.
- The demand for graduates with GIS knowledge and skills is steadily growing!

Important Details:
- All students must participate in a Weekend Field Exercise (Fri/Sat/Sun) at a local park (Hannah Park in Mayport?) to conduct the field data collection component of the class project.
  - “Camping Out” on Friday and Saturday night is optional, but encouraged.
  - Camping equipment and food will be provided.
  - The date will be arranged to accommodate the schedules of the participants.
  - Our field work will be based out of a converted bus with full computing support.
  - You will learn how to use mobile computing devices and GPS-enabled cameras.
- Participants will receive a FREE fully functional copy of the ESRI ArcGIS software used in the course to install on their own computer (one-year license, retail value > $1000).

INSTRUCTOR PERMISSION REQUIRED TO ENROLL.
Send an email to Dr. Lambert (jlambert@unf.edu) for more information and permission.