Georgia State University is a research-intensive public university with an enrollment of over 50,000 students. Located in the heart of Atlanta, GSU is easily accessible by public transportation as well as by car, and our campus is convenient to a wealth of housing, entertainment, and employment options.

For more information, please feel free to contact any of our faculty members or our graduate director, Dr. Larry Kiage (lkiage@gsu.edu).

WATER SCIENCES

M.S. DEGREE IN GEOSCIENCES

A focused, diverse department
The Department of Geosciences has 13 faculty members and approximately 50 active graduate students. We have faculty whose expertise encompass surface- and subsurface-hydrology, as well as socio-economic and geographic aspects of water resources. Our graduate-student body is diverse, representing multiple countries and continents. Together, faculty and students pursue research projects within Georgia, and across the globe.

Outstanding advisors and courses
The Water Sciences concentration is a customizable, interdisciplinary degree program designed to prepare students for employment in a variety of water-related fields or for pursuit of doctoral studies. The degree is rooted in a core curriculum of surface and groundwater hydrology that equips students with a foundational understanding of scientific hydrology. An array of elective courses allows students to develop specific strengths in quantitative and computational methods and/or socio-economic aspects of water utilization and governance. Our interdisciplinary department within a diverse, expanding research institution offers unique advantages for development of a strong foundation in water sciences.

Full tuition waivers and stipends
Full-time students are eligible for assistantships that include full tuition waivers, a stipend, and teaching opportunities, along with a personal workspace and computational resources in the department.

A door to opportunities
A majority of our recent graduates have either gained employment in their fields of study or have entered well-regarded Ph.D. programs. The department also offers a Professional Certificate in Geographic Information Science, and many students simultaneously pursue a master’s degree and the professional certificate.

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**M.S. DEGREE IN GEOSCIENCES**  
**WATER SCIENCES**

Application Deadlines:  
**April 15** for upcoming Fall semester  
**November 1** for upcoming Spring semester

Application Requirements:

Online Materials: statement of purpose, resume or cv, and three letters of recommendation

Additional Materials: official GRE scores, official transcripts, and official TOEFL scores (international applicants only)

**Foundation Coursework:**  
These courses are normally expected to have been completed as part of the applicant’s undergraduate education. However, students may be accepted under Special Status, with the condition that this coursework is completed as part of their graduate study.

- a. Minimum 1 semester of calculus
- b. Minimum 1 semester of physics
- c. Minimum 1 semester of chemistry
- d. 2 semesters of introductory physical geography or geology

**Thesis Option (36 hours)**

1. Departmental Requirements (13 credit hours):
   - a. GEOS 8002 (3) – Geosciences Research Methods
   - b. GEOS 6095 (1) – Seminar
   - c. GEOS 8999 (9) – Thesis Research
   - d. Successfully defend thesis in public presentation

2. Core Required Water Sciences Courses (Minimum 8 hours):
   - a. GEOS 6650 (4) – Surface Water Hydrology
   - b. GEOS 6007 (4) – Hydrogeology
   - c. GEOS 6646 (4) – Water Resources

3. Elective Water Sciences Courses (Minimum 8 hours):
   - a. any course taken in Group 2 in excess of 8 hours
   - b. GEOS 6003 (4) – Aqueous Geochemistry
   - c. GEOS 6008 (4) – Rock Fracture and Fluid Flow
   - d. GEOS 6230 (3) – Global Water Policy and Governance
   - e. GEOS 6642 (4) – Advanced Weather and Climate
   - f. GEOS 6644 (4) – Environmental Conservation
   - g. GEOS 6650 (4) – Geomorphology
   - h. GEOS 8040 (4) – Seminar in Hydrology and Geomorphology
   - i. BIOL 6451 (4) – Aquatic Pollution and Toxicology

4. Related Geoscience Skills Courses (Minimum 6 hours):
   - a. GEOS 6515 (4) – Qualitative Methods
   - b. GEOS 6520 (3-4) – Quantitative Spatial Analysis
   - c. GEOS 6532 (4) – GIS
   - d. GEOS 6534 (4) – Advanced Geographic Information Systems
   - e. GEOS 6536 (4) – GIS Programming
   - f. GEOS 6123 (4) – Geoinformatics
   - g. GEOS 6042 (3) – Environmental Instrumentation
   - h. PH 7297 (3) – Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
   - i. PH 7299 (3) – Sampling of the Environment

**Non-Thesis Option (36 hours)**

1. All above requirements, except 1-C and 1-D.
2. An additional 6 (or more) credits of GEOS graduate courses.
3. Pass a written comprehensive examination.
4. GEOS 8990 (3) – Research Practicum (in consultation with a faculty member)
5. Pass an oral examination of the research project carried out in GEOS 8990.

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