The MS in GIS at the University at Albany

James Mower
Program Director
Who We Are, What We Do

Alex Buyantuev
PhD Arizona State
Remote Sensing, Environment

Shiguo Jiang
PhD Ohio State
Spatial Statistics, Environment

Rui Li
PhD Penn State
Cartography, Wayfinding

Jim Mower
PhD Buffalo
Augmented Reality, Landscape Rendering
What You Can Do

GIS is pervasive in government, business, and not-for-profit agencies

Our graduates work in
• Regional, state, and federal agencies
• Private sector consulting firms
• Surveying engineering firms
• Not-for-profits

Others have pursued careers in higher education
The University at Albany

- We are home to over 17,000 students from over 100 nations
- The University covers three campuses
  - Uptown, or ‘the podium’
    - Our program as well as
  - Downtown (generally policy-related disciplines)
  - Health Sciences Campus
The Department of Geography and Planning

- Our faculty have broad interests across an array of specializations in Geography and Planning.
Our Projects—Alex Buyantuev

Alex was recently awarded an NSF Major Instrument Program research grant to purchase, operate, and maintain a fleet of heavy-lift drones, primarily for environmental remote sensing.

Norman is an advanced PhD student in Informatics with a specialization in GIS. He received an MA in Geography from our Department.
Our Projects—Shiguo Jiang

Shiguo has many research interests in spatial statistics and the use of remotely sensed imagery.

One of his current projects studies the transition of forested areas in Belize to agricultural uses.
Our Projects—Rui Li

- Rui’s main research focus is on human wayfinding activities in built and natural environments
Our Projects—Jim Mower

- Jim is interested in the uses of augmented reality for navigation and landscape visualization.
- He is also developing algorithms and implementations for pen and ink style renderings of landscapes (because they’re cool).
Internship Opportunities

- Our Department is located in the NYS Capital District, the home to many State agencies and offices that make GIS an integral part of their missions.
- We have long standing partnerships with
  - Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
  - Department of Health
  - Office of the Attorney General
  - And many other government and NGO agencies
Where is Albany??

- We are at the intersection of I-90 and I-87
- We have easy access to
  - NYC and Boston
  - The Adirondack and Catskill mountains
- And other interesting locations in between
The MSGIS Program

- The program requires the successful completion of 36 credits
  - 18 credits of core courses
  - 18 credits among electives
Core Courses

- Gog 529 - Spatial Statistics
- Gog 584 - Remote Sensing I
- Gog 585 - Remote Sensing II
- Gog 590 - Advanced Cartography
- Gog 597 - Advanced GIS
- Gog 692 - Seminar in Geographic Information Systems
Electives

- Gog 501 - Research Design
- Gog 518 - Ecological Modeling
- Gog 522 - GIS for Social Sciences
- Gog 524 - Landscape Ecology
- Gog 579 - Fundamentals of Applied Global Positioning Systems
- Gog 685 - Seminar in Remote Sensing of the Environment
- Gog 695 - Graduate Internship in Geography
- Gog 697 - Independent Study in Geography
- Ehs 612 - Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Public Health
Why Study GIS at UAlbany?

- We have a strong, long-established reputation for training students in
  - Remote Sensing
  - Spatial Statistics
  - Cartography
  - Essential analytical skills including
    - Programming
    - Data analysis
Remote Sensing

After taking Remote Sensing I and II, our students will be able to apply remotely sensed imagery to virtually any environmental project.

In this image, Alex is working at a dig in Costa Rica with one of his collaborators and students from the Dept of Anthropology.
GIS

- We have access to top-tier Esri licensing for all computers on campus
- You can also apply for 1-year free licensing for your personal computer
- Many of our courses now use open source GIS software
  - QGIS, Grass, etc
Our students use Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, ArcGIS, and other products to create artistic mapping presentations.
You can find a complete program description at

www.albany.edu/gp/ms-gis.php

Email us!

Jim Mower, Program Director jmower@albany.edu
Alex Buyantuev abuyantuev@albany.edu
Rui Li rli4@albany.edu
Shiguo Jiang sjiang2@albany.edu
Apply!

- Go here: [https://www.albany.edu/graduate/apply-now.php](https://www.albany.edu/graduate/apply-now.php)
- And follow the instructions!
  - We are the Master of Science in Geographic Information Science
- Please send Jim Mower an email if you have any questions with the process
  - jmower@albany.edu
Thanks for listening!
Questions! Please!

Norman and his quad copter want you to ask questions!