



Course Developer/Subject Matter Expert in Geographic Information Science

The Faculty of Science and Technology at Athabasca University (AU) is seeking a subject matter expert to design and develop a foundational undergraduate Geography course in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that could also be used as credit in an interdisciplinary master's program with additional assignments. The course would be offered online in an individualized study format, and it would introduce students to the fundamentals of GIScience and spatial analysis techniques with a focus on their applications in the environmental sciences. To help students apply GIS concepts and skills to environmental problem solving and decision making, remote labs with open-source GIS software, step-by-step and video tutorials, case studies, and practical exercises would be included in the course.

This is a contract position that will start as soon as possible. The contract's length is determined by the terms of the funding grant obtained to develop this new course, which is October 15, 2022 – June 30, 2023, and is worth up to \$15,000.

Main Responsibilities:

- Provide cutting-edge and expert GIS knowledge.
- Map the basic structure of the course, including a draft syllabus, course learning outcomes, learning activities, assessment tools, and course outline.
- Create, modify, and/or locate engaging content, activities, learning resources, assignments and assessments, as appropriate to the identified outcomes and course subject and levels.
- Work with the course development team (i.e., course coordinator, instructional designer, editor, multimedia and visual designer, copyright), using a project management framework and an online course tracking system, and attending weekly check-ins and feedback meetings with them.
- Consider and incorporate feedback from the course development team and complete a final review of the course before it goes live.
- Participate in planning the course development timeline and commit to meeting deadlines.
- Willingness to research and follow best practices for teaching GIS in online and problem-based learning environments.

Qualifications:

- A PhD in Geography or another GIS-related discipline, preferably with a focus on the physical environment, is recommended. Candidates with a master's degree and relevant professional GIS training and experience may be considered.
- Previous teaching experience in higher education is highly desired. Experience in delivering a similar GIS course, preferably self-paced/online, would be an asset.
- Proficiency with open-source GIS software and spatial analysis tools, particularly [QGIS](#) and [GRASS GIS](#).
- Working knowledge of online learning technology such as screen recording and video editing software applications, learning management systems, and Open Educational Resource tools, would be an asset.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Strong organizational skills, such as the ability to solve problems, manage a productive writing schedule, and manage multiple concurrent tasks and priorities.



- Ability to work quickly and accurately under tight project deadlines, independently as well as in a team, and in person or online.

Candidates must own or have access to a computer and internet with the capability to communicate with the University and Course Coordinator and the capability to run any applications required to develop the course.

How to Apply/Contact Us:

Dr. Frédérique Pivot, Course Coordinator, is inviting all qualified candidates to apply by sending their resume, letter of application, and the names, telephone numbers, and email addresses of three references to fpivot@athabascau.ca.

Dr. Pivot can be reached by email or phone at +1-780-708-4630 or 1-866-380-8308 (toll free) for more information about this opportunity.

Beginning immediately, applications will be evaluated until a contractor is found.

About AU:

Our Mission: Athabasca University, Canada's Open University, is dedicated to the removal of barriers that restrict access to and success in university-level study and to increasing equality of educational opportunity for adult learners worldwide. For more information, please visit AU's Strategic Plan IMAGINE: Transforming Lives. Transforming Communities (<http://imagine.athabascau.ca/>).

I-CARE Values: The students and staff of Athabasca University hold a set of complementary values that are fundamental to Athabasca University's identity and functioning:

Integrity
Community
Adaptability
Respect
Excellence

Note:

We wish to express our appreciation to all applicants for their interest and effort in applying for this position. However, only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

Athabasca University is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from women, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, persons of any gender identity and expression, and members of visible minorities.