

**GIS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN ARGENTINA:  
A NEW PROPOSAL TO A GIS INTRODUCTION CURRICULA**

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**ABSTRACT:**

The growth of interest in university-level requires specialist programmers in geographic information systems.

In most of the commercial programmers available, the user knows perfectly the operation, he is performing, but rarely he has indications about precision or about the algorithms or models he is applying, concluding in undesirable and, what is worst, uncertain quality results. The authors try to prevent and to avoid at a certain extent such a problem.

A number of private firms and organizations, as well as public authorities in Argentina already use Geographical Information Systems (GIS), or are starting it, in order to assist decision makers by indicating various alternatives in development and conservation planning and modeling the potential outcomes of a series of scenarios.

A wide gap then exists between application field (reality) and the educational field (academy). This fact should produce the growing interest in teaching Geographical Information Systems (GIS), which rises a number of issues, concerning the conventional instructional methods. The aim of this paper is to present the need to set up a post-graduate course curriculum on GIS in Argentina.

In this context, the authors present a book, edited in Spanish language, by EdiUns, which should provide an introduction to basic GIS concepts and applications, making emphasis into several problems to be considered while making analysis, especially related to accuracy aspects, including some keys to be aware of the lack of information, of how this programmers are operating (indications about precision or about the algorithms or models, the user is applying), concluding in undesirable and, what is worst, uncertain quality results. The authors try to prevent and to avoid at a certain extent such a problems.

The book should be seen as a contribution to provide “quick-start” technical training to professors, to diffuse a comprehensive set of educational materials and to help initiate the funded GIS research cycle. Furthermore another point to be considered in order to benefit GIS teaching and research programmers at Universities in Argentina is the cooperation between GIS Vendors and Academia, as this team could optimally provide education and technical training necessary to ensure efficient GIS applications in the near future.