

M.S. Assistantship
Application of GIS and RS Techniques in Natural Resource Management and Monitoring

College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources,
University of Arkansas at Monticello

The College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources at the University of Arkansas at Monticello is seeking applicants for a M.S. Assistantship available beginning January 2, 2022. The assistantship is half time and carries an annual stipend of \$15,000 plus tuition.

Project: We are seeking an independent and motivated M.S. student to use remote sensing. Changes in land cover and land use are increasingly widespread and rapid and can have negative impacts and repercussions at the local, regional and global levels. Rapid urbanization has caused great change for land cover/land use in the Southeast U.S. because of economic development and population growth. The challenge is to develop methodologies to quickly identify and dynamically monitor the land cover, especially at a large spatial scale and over long time spans. Thus, reliable information on land cover is required to assist and help in the decision-making process needed to face the environmental challenges for decision makers and local stakeholders. The overall goal of this project is to develop a framework using remotely sensed datasets on Google Earth Engine (GEE) platform that can be used to regularly monitor land cover change as well as forest disturbance over time in the State of Arkansas, and to describe the spatial patterns of natural resources changes over the past decades in the region.

Requirements: Applicants must have a 2.7 overall undergraduate GPA or 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate courses and satisfactory GRE scores. A B.S. degree in a natural resources-related field is also required. Applicants must have a valid U.S. driver's license or obtain the same within 60 days of starting employment. Overnight travel is required as well as the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions.

Location and Facilities: The College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources is located in Monticello, Arkansas in the southeastern portion of the state. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is also headquartered here, and is administered by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. The Arkansas Forest Resources Center is the research and extension arm for forest-based programs within the State. Additionally, the USFS Arkansas Forestry Sciences Lab is located at the School. The School and Center maintain several state-of-the-art laboratories (hydrology, soil, quantitative analysis, silviculture, wildlife ecology & management) available for graduate research and education.

Application & Additional Information: Graduate program and application information can be found at <https://www.uamont.edu/academics/CFANR/grad-degrees.html>. Applicants must be admitted to the University of Arkansas at Monticello and apply to the College of Forestry, Agriculture & Natural Resources before they can be considered for an assistantship. Applicants must submit all GRE scores, official transcripts, a statement of interests, and three letters of recommendation. Please indicate the position number above on all application materials and inquiries. For additional information, please contact:

Contact, Hamdi Zurqani, zurqani@uamont.edu 870/460-148.

The position is available until a qualified applicant is selected.
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