

# Finding and Importing GIS Data

*1-Day Course*

## Overview

This 1-day course teaches students a variety of ways to find GIS data, and how to import it into the ArcGIS environment. Students will participate in a field study where they go outside with a GPS unit to collect data and then overlay that data with various other datasets they have downloaded and imported from readily available government data sources in order to analyze a study area.

## Audience

This course is for those who are already comfortable with the basics of ArcGIS, and wish to know how to work with data that isn't in the traditional ArcGIS file formats.

## Topics covered

### Importing Common Data Types

- Finding data on the internet
- Accessing CAD files
- Importing ArcInfo interchange (.e00) files
- Accessing tables (Excel, text files, Oracle, etc.)
- Creating features from legal descriptions

### Tools and Extensions

- Samples Toolbox
- TerraServer Download tool
- XTools
- ET Geowizards
- Data Interoperability Extension
- Open Spirit

### Importing GPS Data

- How GPS Works
- Collecting GPS Data
- Importing GPS Data
- Interpreting GPS Data with ArcGIS
- ArcPad

## Prerequisites and recommendations

Students should be familiar with the basic use of ArcGIS 9.2, including the topics covered in either the **Fundamentals of ArcGIS I** or **ArcGIS Desktop I** classes. Students should also be familiar with basic editing concepts and tools.