
GIS Curricula in China's Higher Education

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Abstract

The Ministry of Education of P.R.C has been updated the major catalogue of China's higher education and added major of GIS in geographical science since 1997, the major of GIS has been set up in 93 universities and colleges nationwide. The curricular structure and the establishment of core courses are one of the most significant steps in GIS education. This paper, based on a questionnaire and investigation, points out that the curricular structure of GIS is composed of three parts, including general education courses, foundation courses for GIS and GIS courses. Then, the situation of foundation courses for GIS and GIS courses in various universities and colleges is especially discussed and the characteristics of the GIS courses is portrayed. Finally, the paper put forward the tentative program of the core courses setting, which can be utilized as a reference for different universities and colleges to plan their GIS education and the construction of core courses.

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