

# Fieldwork & Expeditions

**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**

with IBG

Advancing geography  
and geographical learning

## ● Geographical Information Sciences for expeditions and fieldwork Friday - Sunday 16-18 March 2012

This practical workshop is designed for people looking to use tools and techniques such as GPS, remote sensing, digital mapping and data analyses – together known as Geographical Information Sciences – as part of a field research project or expedition. The course will involve hands on experience with GIS software and will teach a range of practical skills through fieldwork within Hyde Park. Participants will learn how to tie GPS co-ordinates to digital maps and satellite data.

Areas within fieldwork where GIS may be of value:

- Planning and navigating using maps, GPS and satellite images.
- Mapping distributions of plant and animal species, predicting patterns of biodiversity.
- Surveying geology and natural resources (e.g. water and soils)
- Analysing land-use and changes over time
- Displaying results of community mapping in villages
- Creating and assessing management zones for instance in national parks.

Various mapping exercises will look at how expedition fieldwork can be accomplished rapidly and efficiently, thus achieving more with the time available in the field.

Activities will include dealing with inaccurate, poor quality or old maps and conducting rapid image rectification to turn inexpensive or free satellite data into reliable and accurate base maps. They will look at how to power digital equipment in remote locations and how to protect your data in inhospitable and difficult conditions. Advanced

digital navigation and position finding techniques will be taught including using the most up to date equipment such as WAAS GPS and PDAs in a cost-effective way.

ArcGIS software used on this not-for-profit course has kindly been provided by ESRI. The course will make additional use of Quantum GIS (QGIS) which participants are encouraged to download and install. Delegates without their own laptop will have access to a workstation.

### Course notes

Each delegate will be given as part of the course the new *Expedition Fieldwork Techniques manual: GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing 2005* (authors Richard Teeuw, Martin Whiteside, Nicholas McWilliam and Paul Zukowskyj).

### Dates

Friday 16 – Sunday 18 March 2012

### Timing

Friday 9.30am - 5.30pm. Doors open at 9.00am.  
Saturday 9.30am - 5.30pm. Doors open at 9.00am.  
Sunday 9.30am – 4.30pm. Doors open at 9.00am.

### Venue

Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)  
1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR

### Event cost

Standard rate £290 (incl VAT at 20%) / Student rate £140 (incl VAT at 20%) per person for three days. The price includes lunch, refreshments and the GIS 2005 handbook but *not* accommodation.

To book please return a completed booking form with payment to:  
**Geography Outdoors: the centre supporting field research, expeditions and outdoor learning**  
RGS-IBG, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR • tel: 020 7591 3030 • fax: 020 7591 3031  
• e-mail: [go@rgs.org](mailto:go@rgs.org) • website: [www.rgs.org/GOseminars](http://www.rgs.org/GOseminars)





**GISci for Expeditions and Fieldwork • Booking Form Continued**

**Details of planned expedition / research project:**

In order to tailor the workshop to your specific needs and increase its overall benefit it helps if that we know as much about your planned GIS/GPS usage as possible. Please answer the following questions in as much detail as possible.

**Country / area:**

**Dates:**

**Summary of project:**

**What are your plans for using GIS / GPS?**

**What is your experience of GIS / GPS, remote sensing and related topics?**

**Do you have any specific areas of concern or aspects of the research you would like help with?**

*If you have already put together a research proposal, please attach it or bring it with you.  
You are particularly encouraged to bring your own mapping materials to the workshop, maps, GPS units etc.*



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