



## UWSP's GIS program issues first certificates

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has issued the first **certificates** in its one-year geographic information systems program.

Seven students received the professional **certification** from the 18-credit program, which began this past fall.

The program is aimed at adults looking to continue their **education** and add skills for their employment.

Geographic information systems capture, process, analyze and display mapped information, such as with Google Earth. GIS can be used in a variety of industries, from emergency **management** to transportation and logistics.

"The GIS certificate program is ideal for quickly building GIS skill sets and getting people into, or back into, the workforce for highly demanded GIS jobs," Douglas Miskowiak, a GIS education specialist at UWSP's GIS Center, said in a news release. "The U.S. Department of Labor recognizes geotechnology as one of the three most progressive professions today."

UWSP launched its GIS Center in 2008 with the help of a \$1.7 million federal grant former U.S. Rep. Dave Obey helped

secure. The center, housed in UWSP's Department of Geography and Geology, also offers classes to UWSP **students**.

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