

Rory Collier

Lecturer, GIS

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STRENGTHS



Online Teaching

Converted classroom GIS lessons into clear asynchronous modules, and learners gained a more reliable path through technical work.



Graduate Advising

Guided capstone teams through data choices and validation, becoming a steady resource when project questions grew difficult.



Course Development

Built practical web mapping instruction after partner conversations, giving learners skills that felt useful beyond a classroom.



External Engagement

Invited agencies into course activities through datasets and guest discussions, creating stronger links between study and practice.



Spatial Instruction

Connected analysis, cartography, and remote sensing in applied courses, helping students explain results with greater confidence.



Curriculum Coordination

Shared datasets and assessment guidance across instructors, making course delivery smoother when sections and teaching teams changed.

SKILLS

Online Education GIS Instruction

Upper Division Teaching

Graduate Teaching

Online Course Development

Curriculum Design Spatial Analysis

Cartography Geodatabases

SUMMARY

GIS educator and spatial sciences specialist with eight years of university teaching, **online course development**, advising, and applied geospatial practice across **upper division undergraduate** and graduate programs. Holds a PhD in Geography and extensive experience delivering engaging **online instruction** in spatial analysis, cartography, geodatabases, remote sensing, coordinate systems, and reproducible workflows. Redesigned graduate courses through modular labs, recorded demonstrations, structured assessments, and accessible digital materials that support geographically distributed learners. Advises graduate projects, mentors instructors, coordinates shared course resources, and translates agency and industry needs into practical skills courses. Builds productive relationships with public sector and environmental partners, creating authentic learning opportunities tied to natural resources, community planning, and workforce needs. Brings a clear **land grant mission** perspective and a teaching focused approach to online GIS education.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Lecturer, Geographic Information Science

Front Range State University 📅 August 2023 - Present 📍 Fort Collins, CO

Leads online and hybrid GIS education for upper division and **graduate learners**, coordinating curriculum, **advising**, instructor resources, and external engagement across applied spatial science offerings.

- Redesigned **graduate GIS courses** with modular labs, recorded demonstrations, and rubric based assessments for consistency.
- Developed web mapping skills course after agency consultations identified demand for publishable interactive spatial products.
- Advised graduate projects on data selection, analytical methods, and communication of environmental findings.
- Coordinated course sequencing, reusable datasets, lab guidance, and assessment standards across shared **GIS** offerings.
- Maintained agency and industry relationships that supplied datasets, guest discussions, and authentic project questions.
- Led online and hybrid instruction integrating **spatial analysis**, geodatabases, cartography, and **remote sensing** for advanced cohorts.

Lecturer, GIS and Geography

Mountain Plains University 📅 August 2020 - July 2023 📍 Laramie, WY

Delivered online and classroom GIS instruction for **geography**, **natural resources**, and interdisciplinary graduate learners while developing practical curriculum, capstone guidance, and recruitment outreach.

- Converted established GIS instruction into asynchronous demonstrations, guided labs, and troubleshooting resources online.
- Built upper division modules covering vector analysis, raster analysis, coordinate systems, and spatial databases.
- Guided graduate capstone teams through problem definition, workflow documentation, validation, and external presentations.
- Partnered with natural resource faculty on **forestry** and **wildlife** exercises using regional datasets.
- Supported **recruitment** events by demonstrating online GIS coursework and explaining advanced study pathways.
- Delivered classroom and **online courses** that connected spatial reasoning with defensible environmental analysis.

Assistant Lecturer, Geospatial Studies

Western Colorado College 📅 August 2018 - July 2020 📍 Grand Junction, CO

LANGUAGES

English Native

Spanish Intermediate

MY CAREER



● Senior Lecturer, Geographic Information Science at Front Range State University (3.2 Years)

● Lecturer, GIS and Geography at Mountain Plains University (2.9 Years)

● Assistant Lecturer, Geospatial Studies at Western Colorado College (1.9 Years)

● Graduate Teaching Fellow, Geography at Rocky Mountain Research University (1.9 Years)

Taught introductory through upper division geospatial courses, building foundational skills, online learning materials, aligned assessments, and applied projects for land use and natural resource contexts.

- Developed laboratory exercises that moved learners from data preparation through documented analytical interpretation.
- Created narrated demonstrations, structured exercises, quizzes, and discussions for selected online GIS units.
- Mentored project teams analyzing land use and natural resource questions with transparent analytical decisions.
- Aligned course outcomes and assessments with faculty across the geospatial curriculum for consistent preparation.
- Supported **outreach** workshops for community and agency participants focused on practical GIS workflows.
- Taught **GIS** labs and lectures covering spatial data management, analysis, and cartographic communication.

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Geography

Rocky Mountain Research University 📅 August 2016 - July 2018 📍 Boulder, CO

Provided supervised GIS laboratory instruction during doctoral study, preparing datasets, technical demonstrations, assessments, consultations, and online lesson improvements for undergraduate geography learners.

- Prepared **GIS** datasets, walkthroughs, and grading criteria that reinforced lecture concepts through practice.
- Held consultations on coordinate systems, data joins, raster processing, and spatial result interpretation.
- Supported faculty pilots of online GIS lessons through feedback review and accessibility improvements.
- Contributed geospatial methods to landscape change research with documented data provenance and repeatable procedures.
- Presented **teaching** demonstrations and research methods to departmental audiences with varied technical backgrounds.
- Delivered supervised laboratory instruction in geoprocessing, map production, and applied **spatial analysis**.

PROJECTS

Online GIS Course Renewal 📅 2023

Redesigned graduate GIS instruction through modular labs, recorded demonstrations, accessible digital materials, and rubric based assessments that support distributed learners.

Web Mapping Skills Course 📅 2024

Created a practical web mapping course after agency consultations revealed demand for publishable interactive spatial products and workplace ready skills.

Natural Resources GIS Curriculum 📅 2022

Built forestry and wildlife exercises with regional datasets, connecting spatial analysis, data quality, and map communication with field oriented decisions.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Senior Lecturer appointment, recognized for sustained leadership in online GIS education and graduate curriculum development.
- Graduate Teaching Fellowship, awarded for effective supervised instruction and applied spatial analysis during doctoral study.
- Program Outreach Leadership, supported recruitment events and external workshops connecting GIS education with agency needs.

EDUCATION

PhD in Geography

Rocky Mountain Research University 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2018 📍 Boulder, CO

Coursework: Geographic information systems, spatial analysis, remote sensing, research methods

Master of Science in Geographic Information Science

Colorado Mesa Institute 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2014 📍 Grand Junction, CO

Coursework: Cartography, geodatabases, spatial databases, natural resources applications

CERTIFICATIONS

- Online Teaching Certificate 📅 2023
- Geographic Information Systems Certificate 📅 2014

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **GIS Software:** ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, QGIS
- **Spatial Analysis:** Vector analysis, raster analysis, geoprocessing
- **Cartography:** Cartographic design, map communication, thematic mapping
- **Geodatabases:** Geodatabases, spatial databases, data joins
- **Remote Sensing:** Remote sensing, raster processing, landscape change
- **Online Learning:** Asynchronous instruction, learning modules, recorded demonstrations
- **Course Design:** Learning objectives, laboratory exercises, rubric based assessment
- **Data Quality:** Data selection, metadata, validation
- **Web Mapping:** Interactive maps, publishable spatial products, web GIS
- **Natural Resources:** Forestry applications, wildlife applications, environmental planning
- **Student Support:** Graduate advising, capstone guidance, technical troubleshooting
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Agency partnerships, industry outreach, guest discussions

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Geography and geospatial education community, engaged through teaching practice and curriculum exchange.
- Natural resources and agency partner network, connected through applied GIS learning opportunities and guest contributions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST