



# ONE-DAY SHORT COURSE ON GIS FOR GEOTECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS

The NZ Geotechnical Society is offering a one-day short course providing an introduction to Geographic Information Systems [GIS] with a focus on geotechnical applications.

All geotechnical investigations have significant spatial components and GIS software is an appropriate and powerful tool for bringing a range of data sources together to improve the understanding of ground conditions at all scales. Many governments have undertaken major investments in spatial technology to provide better access to information for the community, business and public sectors. There is now a large and growing range of spatial information available that is relevant to geotechnical applications and it makes compelling business sense to have this capability in-house.

GIS is much more than just making maps (which it does very

well). It also provides powerful tools for analysing large and diverse datasets. Software and hardware costs are no longer prohibitive, and professionals can run it even on personal machines.

## **Aims of the Course**

You will be introduced to GIS functionality, cover basic theory and work through a series of exercises with real geotechnical data to develop geotechnical models. By the end of the day, each applicant will be able to open, create and recycle GIS projects, discover and import data, analyse relationships between data sets and produce maps and cross-sections suitable for reports and presentations. What you don't complete can be taken home with you to continue your learning.

You will work with LiDAR, an exciting dataset that is revolutionising the understanding of landscapes and sites and use this to create your first 3D model. You will also learn where to get data, including online government repositories and how to link to web services that provides layers to add to your projects remotely, anywhere in the world.

The workshop will be interspersed with examples of real projects with opportunities for group discussion. Digital datasets and course notes will be provided.

Attendees will bring their own laptops with the powerful open source GIS software (QGIS) preloaded and tested. Instructions will be provided to attendees on how to do that, before the course.

## Who should attend

Geotechnical practitioners with GIS skills are in increasing demand, so this could be your opportunity for professional development.

Geotechnical practitioners (particularly engineers and geologists) at all levels of prior experience and training in GIS will benefit from the course, even those without any GIS experience or training in the past. For others managing GIS staff, there is much to be gained by learning more about what your GIS team can do for your business. Attendees should have prior computer experience.

The course will also benefit those who are GIS analysts/specialists. Your communication with your geotechnical colleagues will be improved and some of the additional capabilities of GIS will be showcased, so that you can do more advanced and challenging tasks in the geotechnical space in the future. For those GIS specialists who do not have a strong geotechnical background, this is your opportunity to learn what your geotechnical colleagues really want to know.

## WHERE AND WHEN

### AUCKLAND:

**Monday 10 June 2019**

BECA, 21 Pitt Street,  
Auckland 1010

Tentative second course [if required]:

**Tuesday 11 June 2019, same venue.**

### WELLINGTON:

**Friday 14 June 2019**

Engineering New Zealand,  
Level 6, NEC House,  
40 Taranaki Street

### CHRISTCHURCH:

**Thursday 20 June 2019**

WSP Opus,  
12 Moorhouse Avenue, Christchurch  
Tentative second course [if required]:

**Wednesday 19 June 2019, same venue.**

## Course outline

Part 1	Preliminaries
Part 2	The business case and overview of GIS
Part 3	GIS theory including, projects, data, and thematic layers; datums and projections; accuracy and resolution
Part 4	Geological/geotechnical data models: drillholes, geology and geomorphology polygon layers, lineaments, oriented data, samples, etc.
Part 5	Data analysis and operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Vector:</b> queries and filters, table and spatial joins, geoprocessing</li><li>• <b>Raster:</b> queries and geoprocessing; DEM, DEM derivatives and DSM explained</li></ul>
Part 6	Data sources [where to get it, and how to use it]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• External, local, shared, web services. Paper maps, aerial photographs, spreadsheets</li></ul>
Part 7	The QGIS experience and class exercises <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to the QGIS interface followed by class exercises.</li></ul>
Part 8	Advanced GIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data management principles, managing photographs with geo-location, importing GPS data, going digital in the field, point clouds, interpolation methods</li></ul>

## Course Program

[the times and sequence are indicative and may be changed on the day of the course]

8:30 – 9:00am	Setup
9:00 – 9:10am	Introductions
9:10 – 10:15am	Presentation: introducing GIS and basic principles
10:15 – 10:30am	Morning tea
10:30 – 12:30pm	Introducing QGIS and start of exercises
12:30 – 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00 – 3:00pm	QGIS exercises continued
3:00 – 3:15pm	Afternoon Tea
3:15 – 4:30pm	QGIS exercises continued 3D Models explained
4:30 – 5:00pm	Wrap up
5:00pm	Course concludes

**SPECIAL  
OFFER**  
**FOR THE YOUNG  
GEOTECHNICAL  
PROFESSIONALS IN  
CHRISTCHURCH**

The course in Christchurch will be combined with the **Young Geotechnical Professionals Mini-Symposium** that will be held on **Friday 21st of June 2019**.

For the Young Geotechnical Professionals who also will attend the YGP mini-Symposium, the **GIS course is offered at a reduced price of \$180+GST.**

Registrations for the YGP mini-Symposium and the combined course will be announced by NZGS soon.





### Presenter

The course will be led by Colin Mazengarb, an engineering-geologist residing in Hobart with over 20 years GIS experience. Colin recently provided this

course in Melbourne and Sydney on behalf of the Australian Geomechanics Society, with great success. Colin trained as a geologist at the University of Auckland, graduating with a MSc degree. He practiced as a regional geologist with the NZ Geological Survey (and successor organisations) for 20 years including 1 year as a visiting geologist with the Oklahoma Geological Survey. In 2003, he took up a position as an engineering-geologist with Tasmania's geological survey (Mineral Resources Tasmania). His career was initially founded on classical regional geological

mapping projects and basin studies but subsequently broadened to natural hazards and engineering-geology heavily utilising GIS and other forms of digital technology.

Colin lives in Hobart with his wife and 3 adult children and when not working enjoys cycling, tennis, travel and family activities.

### Course Helpers

Colin will be assisted on the day by experienced GIS specialists. The specialists are kindly granted by WSP Opus (Auckland and Wellington) and Tonkin & Taylor (Christchurch).

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## Thanks to our Sponsors for supporting this event

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### Registration fees:

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\$180 +GST for Young Geotechnical Professionals that will attend the YGP mini – Symposium in Christchurch

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\$350 +GST for NZGS, NZSEE, SESOC and NZSOLD members

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\$650 + GST for non-NZGS, NZSEE, SESOC and NZSOLD members.

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Registration fees include attendance of the course and course material (digital course notes) and full catering for the day (morning and afternoon teas, lunch tea and coffee). Fees will not be refunded if a participant is unable to attend, although a nominated substitute person may attend. If the course is cancelled fees will be refunded in full.

**Course Numbers and registrations** Attendees will be limited to 16 per course. Registrations will be accepted on a first come – first served basis. Tentative second courses have been allowed for in Auckland and Christchurch, on Tuesday the 11th of June and Wednesday the 19th of June 2019, respectively. Attendees registering after the definite courses are full, will be automatically transferred to the tentative second course in the same center.

On the definite course in Christchurch [Thursday 20 June 2019] priority will be given to Young Geotechnical Professionals who will also attend the YGP mini - Symposium. Other attendees exceeding the maximum allowable course number will be automatically transferred to the tentative second course [Wednesday 19 June]. Earliest registrations will remain on the definite course, if there is space.

NZGS reserves the right not to run the tentative second courses if the numbers are not sufficient. In this case, registration fees will be refunded in full.

We would appreciate your early registration, so that the second courses can be organised in a timely manner.

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**REGISTER online** (click on the appropriate link to register)

[Auckland](#)

[Wellington](#)

[Christchurch](#)

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