

ArcGIS Pro Essentials Series: Part I

Course Length: 2 days

ArcGIS Version: Pro 3.x

App: ArcGIS Pro

Overview

Whether you are migrating from ArcMap or brand-new to ArcGIS Pro, this course is your starting point.

This two-day hands-on course builds a practical foundation in ArcGIS Pro for professionals across government, utilities, environmental, engineering, and commercial sectors. Participants move from basic map navigation into creating projects, importing existing ArcMap .mxd documents, and working confidently with the ArcGIS Pro interface, ribbons, panes, and views. Through structured lectures and hands-on exercises, attendees learn to optimize data display with symbology and labeling, produce polished layouts for print and digital delivery, and apply core spatial analysis and geoprocessing tools to answer real-world questions. By course end, participants leave with the skills to use ArcGIS Pro as a production-ready platform for managing, visualizing, and analyzing spatial data.

Audience

This course is designed for GIS technicians, analysts, planners, engineers, and managers across any industry who need to create maps and work with spatial data in ArcGIS Pro. It is equally well-suited for professionals using GIS software for the first time and for experienced ArcMap users seeking a structured, efficient transition to ArcGIS Pro's updated workflows.

Topics Covered

Day 1

- Overview of GIS – Establish a clear understanding of GIS concepts and spatial problem-solving so you can frame your work within the broader ArcGIS platform from day one. (What is ArcGIS?; Getting Started in a Project)
- ArcGIS Pro Basics – Gain the hands-on confidence to navigate the ArcGIS Pro interface, manage maps and layers, and access the data behind your visualizations — the core competency everything else builds on. (Parts of the Interface; Map Tools; Layer Tools)
- Using Symbology to Analyze Data – Move beyond default rendering to produce maps that communicate clearly and support data-driven decision-making. (Applying Symbology in ArcGIS Pro; Symbology Choices; Layer Files)
- Asking Questions of Your Data – Query your data by attribute and spatial relationship so you can isolate, investigate, and act on exactly the features that matter to your analysis. (Making Selections; Interactive Selection; Select by Attribute; Using the Selection)

Day 2

- Understanding GIS Data – Know which data formats to use and where to find them — including file geodatabases, shapefiles, and Portal-hosted datasets — so data access never slows your work down. (GIS Data Types; Accessing Portal Data)
- Adding Data and Managing a Project – Keep your projects organized and functional by managing data sources, repairing broken links, and bringing in the data types your workflows require. (Understanding the ArcGIS Pro Project; Finding and Adding Data to a Map)
- Designing Your Map for Presentation – Produce professional, print-ready and shareable map layouts that meet the standards your organization and clients expect. (Working with Map Frames; Working with Elements; Sharing Layouts)
- Geoprocessing – Apply ArcGIS geoprocessing tools to manipulate, manage, and analyze your spatial data — turning raw datasets into actionable results. (Geographic Analysis; Running Tools)

Format

In-person or live virtual instruction with hands-on practice and course materials you can keep. It is also available as a self-directed course to take on your schedule.

Prerequisites and Recommendations

Attendees should be comfortable working on a computer and navigating the folder structure in Microsoft Windows®.