Geography and Geoinformation Science 310-001
Introduction to Digital Cartography
Fall 2018
Credits: 3
Tuesdays 10:30 am - 1:10 pm, Exploratory Hall 2310

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Dr. Sven Fuhrmann
Associate Professor
Exploratory Hall 2204
Phone: 703-993-2289
Email: sfuhrman@gmu.edu
Office hours: TU 1:30PM-2:30PM, WE 1:30PM-2:30PM and by appointment.

Teaching Assistant
Jin-Kyu Lee
Email: jlee67@gmu.edu
Office Hours & Location: TBA

CLASSMATE CONTACT INFORMATION

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
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CATALOG DESCRIPTION
Study and creation of maps. Fundamental mapping principles (projection, scale, generalization, symbolization) and applied computer-based cartographic production.

COURSE ORGANIZATION
This course is a lecture-discussion-lab mixed class. Class time will be split between discussion of readings on cartography, lectures about cartographic concepts, and lab time applying these concepts into praxis. In the lab, students will learn using Adobe Illustrator® and MAPublisher® to make maps.

LAB ACCESS
All enrolled students have computer lab access to Adobe Illustrator and MAPublisher in lab EXPL 2102.
MATERIALS

Required Text
None

Recommended References
Recommended reading material will be made available on Blackboard or handed out during lecture.

Other Materials
Students will require a 32GB USB Drive (or larger) for storage of their lab project materials.

George Mason Online account
It is essential that you activate your George Mason computer account, since we will be using Blackboard for communication and assignment purposes.

General Class Policies
This class will consist primarily of:
  • Weekly reading and homework assignments
  • Self-initiated study and knowledge development
  • Written assignments
  • Project assignments
  • Exams
  • A final project

Knowledge and Effort
This course requires significant computer file management skills and the ability to work within a Windows computer environment without assistance. You are expected to spend considerable time developing thoughtful products, conducting limited research to feed into your written assignments, as well as participate with others in the class and lab. Students must demonstrate a mature, professional, and conscientious effort toward class work and participation.

Attendance
Students are expected to attend class. This course introduces considerable material and requires many hours of work. Please do not fall behind your reading or assignments. Poor attendance will result in a poor final grade. Additionally, students are expected to arrive on time. Because of the size of this class, students entering the classroom late disturb the class activities. Be present and be punctual.

Late Work (Lab Assignments)
Late work will only be graded if it is submitted within 10 working days of the due date. Please note that late assignments will be subject to a 10% reduction in the overall assignment grade.

If Blackboard is not working the day that assignments or labs are due, the due date is extended until Blackboard becomes available. To be certain, please contact your instructor or teaching assistant for further guidance.
Cell Phones
All cell phones need to be turned off during class and during examination periods.

Video and/or Audio Recording
Video and/or audio recording and distribution of lecture content is not permitted and require consent of the lecturer.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

University ADA Statement and Policy
Students with special needs (as documented by the Office of Disability Services) that will require compensatory arrangements must contact the instructor no later than the fourth class period to discuss specific arrangements and logistics. Students who have not already done so will be required to contact the Office of Student Disability Services located at SUB I, Room 4205 (703.993.2474). George Mason University is dedicated to providing these students with necessary academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to facilitate their participation and performance in the classroom. The full ADA-compliant policy is available online at: http://ods.gmu.edu/

Academic Testing for Students with Disabilities
Students who are approved for testing accommodations have the option of using the Office of Disability Services exam lab to take in-class tests or quizzes with their accommodations. Any student who schedules a test with ODS must schedule tests during the in-class scheduled test time (or seek an exception from the instructor) and are expected to take the test at ODS. If a student schedules to take a test with ODS but decides that they will take the test in the classroom, the student will be responsible for notifying ODS and the instructor prior to the class start time.

Academic Integrity
Learning and teaching take place best in an atmosphere of intellectual fair-minded openness. All members of the academic community are responsible for supporting freedom and openness through rigorous personal standards of honesty and fairness. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty undermine the very purpose of the university and diminish the value of an education. Specific sanctions for academic dishonesty are outlined in George Mason Student Handbook. More information: http://oai.gmu.edu

MasonLive/Email (GMU Email)
Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program (including messages related to this class) will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account. See http://masonlive.gmu.edu for more information.

University Policies
Students must follow the university policies. See: http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu

Responsible Use of Computing
**Diversity**

“George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study and personal growth.

An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard and respected.” [http://ctfe.gmu.edu/professional-development/mason-diversity-statement/](http://ctfe.gmu.edu/professional-development/mason-diversity-statement/)

**GRADING AND EXAMS (INCL. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS)**

Grades will be based on the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>A+</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lab Grade</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-99%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>(The lab grade represents the submitted lab assignments)</td>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-99%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>(A final project that needs to be submitted via Blackboard by the given deadline)</td>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>(80% final project / 10% final presentation / 5% final project proposal / 5% data check)</td>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>90-92%</td>
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<td>80-82%</td>
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<td>(A written exam – date see below)</td>
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<td>90-92%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>(A written exam – date see below)</td>
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<td>80-82%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
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**NOTE:** Your final percentage will round to the nearest whole number, e.g., 89.2=89 but 89.6=90.
Exam #1 (in class exam)
TU, October 2, 2018 (during normal class time, 45 minutes)

Exam #2 (in class exam)
TU, November 13, 2018 (during normal class time, 45 minutes)

Exams policies
Exams are one form of student assessment. This course utilizes multiple methods for assessing student progress and performance to include exams, projects, and written assignments. There will be no make-ups or early assessments, with the exception of extreme personal hardship, which must be discussed with the instructor prior to the assessment date and agreed upon. In these limited, documented cases, the following policies apply: 1) the make-up exam is different from the original exam but no more difficult, and 2) the format of the exam may be changed.

Important Dates
August 27: First day of classes
September 3: Labor Day (University closed)
September 24 - October 19: Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)
September 30: Last day to drop class
October 2: Exam #1
October 8: Fall Break (Recess)
October 9: Monday classes meet instead of Tuesday classes
October 28: Selective Withdrawal deadline.
November 13: Exam #2
November 21 - 25: Thanksgiving Recess
December 4: Short Presentation: “Final Project”
December 4: Final Projects are due
December 8: Last day of classes
**Tentative Course Outline – General Description of Subject Matter**

*NOTE: This outline is subject to modification. Students will be notified of any changes. Students are encouraged to download the lecture slides from Blackboard.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Labs / Assignments</th>
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| TU  | 8/28 | Syllabus & Course Policies  
         Map Aesthetics |                     |
| TU  | 9/4  | Thematic Cartography, Maps,  
         Map Design | LAB1                |
| TU  | 9/11 | Geographic Data | LAB2                |
| TU  | 9/18 | Color Principles | LAB3                |
| TU  | 9/25 | Typography and Maps | LAB4                |
| TU  | 10/2 | **Short Exam 1 (45 minutes)** | LAB5                |
| TU  | 10/9 | **No class (Monday classes meet)** |                     |
| TU  | 10/16 | Projections and Coordinate  
         Systems | LAB6                |
| TU  | 10/23 | Data Classification / Choropleth  
         Mapping | LAB7                |
| TU  | 10/30 | Proportional Symbol Maps /  
         Cartograms | LAB8, Final Project Proposal Due (part of the final project grade) |
| TU  | 11/6 | Special Use Maps, Map Critique | LAB9                |
| TU  | 11/13 | **Short Exam 2 (45 minutes)** | LAB10               |
| TU  | 11/20 | Data Check Due (part of the final project grade) | Work on Final Project |
| TU  | 11/27 | Final Project Critiquing | Work on Final Project |
| TU  | 12/4 | Final Presentation | **Final Projects are Due** |