

Introduction to Map Use

GEOG 1224**3 Credits****Fall 2007****M & W 3 – 4:15pm****245 Hagg-Sauer**<http://faculty.bemidjistate.edu/jueland/>

Jeff Ueland

Hagg-Sauer 235B

Office Hrs: M & W 11-2,

H 1-5 or appt

Ph: (218) 755-2805

e: jueland@bemidjistate.edu**Required text**Campbell, J. 2001. *Map Use and Analysis*, 4th ed. McGraw-Hill.**Course rationale**

This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of map use and analysis, including issues related to the history, interpretation, and the production of geographic information. It is designed to provide students with a broad grasp of the conventional practices and contemporary theory associated with the mapping sciences. Activities and exercises will provide students with experience in basic map interpretation, digital data display, and spatial data representation techniques and the creation of electronic maps. We will also explore the subjective nature of cartography, from the decisions inherent in the display of cartographic information, to the way in which maps construct our understanding of space.

Course objectives

- Identify and interpret cartographic information from a variety of maps and remotely sensed imagery
- Discuss the history of cartography
- Describe and apply basic cartographic principles relating to scale, projections, and coordinate systems
- Use a map and compass to navigate terrestrial landscapes
- Identify map types and articulate reasoned critiques and their effectiveness
- Describe and utilize cartographic data resources available on the Internet
- Utilize a GPS for creation of spatial data
- Explain how mapping is a subjective enterprise
- Construct basic map and graph types
- Utilize basic internet-based tools to construct your own maps

Attendance

Since this course relies heavily on in-class demonstrations and project work, attendance is critical. You get one unexcused absence that will not affect grading. Each additional absence decreases your final grade by 2 percentage points. Roll will be taken in class based on a random number generated selection of dates. The following and only the following absences are eligible to be excused and properly documented: religious holidays, as specified in BSU policy; absences due to representing BSU at official functions, verified emergencies and/or illness. While one is not penalized per se for excused absences, s/he is nevertheless responsible for all content missed, including any assignments, knowledge, or skills covered or assigned in the missed class(es). If you do miss class, you should make every effort to contact me before the next class period, so that you can catch up on the missed material. No “extra” credit is available, and **all labs, assignments, and the final exam must be completed to pass the course**. I will post all grades and additional handouts on D2L so make sure to check the site regularly.

Evaluation

In this course you will be evaluated on two exams, one map test, 12 lab exercises, and attendance/participation. The breakdown is as follows:

- Mid term exam = 20%
- Final exam = 20%
- Map test = 10%
- Labs = 4% each (12 x 4%) = 48%
- Movie write up = 2%

Grading Schedule

A: 90%-100%

B:80%-89.9%

C:70%-79.9%

D:60%-69.9%

F:0%-59.9%

Tentative Schedule

Week	Dates	Material	Readings
1	8/27-8/29	Introduction and Basic Mapping Processes	CH 1 & 2
2	9/3-9/5	NO CLASS MON 9/3 – LABOR DAY ; Projections	CH 3
3	9/10-9/12	Land Partitioning Systems / Scale	CH 4 & 5
4	9/17-9/19	Measurement from Maps / Contouring	CH 6 & 9
5	9/24-9/26	Topographic Maps	CH 8 & 10
6	10/1-10/3	Navigation	CH 7
7	10/8-10/10	GPS	Handout
8	10/15-10/17	MIDTERM EXAM WED 10/17	
9	10/22-10/24	Point Patterns / Area Pattern Mapping	CH 11 & 12
10	10/29-10/31	Map Types and Graphs	CH 14 & 15
11	11/5-11/7	Air Photos and Remote Sensing	CH 17 & 18
12	11/12-11/14	Geographic Information Systems	CH 20 & 21
13	11/19-11/21	Digital Representations and Information Politics; NO CLASS WED 11/21 - THANKSGIVING	CH 16 & Handout
14	11/26-11/28	Cartography, Google Earth/Maps, and Web Mapping Applications	CH 19 Handout
15	12/3-12/5	Movie	Handouts
16	12/10	Final Presentations of Web Atlas	
17	12/18	Final Exam Tuesday, December 18th @ 8am	

Labs

Lab	Topic	Due date
1	Projections	9/12
2	Scale	9/19
3	Contouring	9/26
4	Online topographic maps	10/3
5	Navigation	10/10
6	GPS	10/17
7	Choropleth mapping	10/31
8	Excel Graphing	11/7
9	Air Photo/ Remote Sensing	11/14
10	GIS	11/21
11	Google Mapping / Website creation – “The People’s Atlas of Bemidji”	12/10

Detailed information on each of these labs will be provided when they are handed out and/or posted.

Course Homepage and Email Contact

For this course all content, including lectures and handouts can be found on the D2L site created for this course. You can log onto your D2L account and find the course and all the material will be accessible to you. ***You must also use only your BSU email accounts to correspond for this course. It is also your responsibility to check the D2L site frequently as I will post all important class changes and messages at this location.*** All changes to the course schedule made in class are the responsibility of the student.

Delivery of Assignments and Late Assignments

All assignments will be turned in digitally to the D2L site preferably as PDF documents. We will discuss this in greater detail when it is time to turn in the first assignment. Late Assignments will be reduced by 20% of the assignments total grade for 5 days. If the assignment is not turned in by Friday of the week it is due it will become a zero.

Classroom Protocol

Disruption of the classroom learning environment will not be tolerated. If you have to leave class early, you should clear it with me before the class begins, or risk the loss of previously earned attendance points. Newspapers and other reading material shall be put away at the start of the lecture. I will deduct participation points for inappropriate student-to-student conversations during class time. Please keep discussions to a scholarly tone respectful of diverse opinions and open to follow up questions and/or disagreement.

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Although it is expected that students will help each other while working on the projects, what you turn in should reflect your knowledge, competence, and acquired skills. *Anyone who turns in someone else’s work as his/her own, copies internet materials, or plagiarizes will receive a failing grade for the course, and may be reported to the Director of University Judiciaries for further action.*

Disabilities

If you have a disability and need assistance for some of the work in the course please inform me at the beginning of the semester and we can discuss appropriate accommodations.

Computer Lab Use

Hagg-Sauer 246 is available for your use in the computer based assignments for this course. You can use the lab whenever it is open and there is not a scheduled course going on in the facility. No food or drinks are allowed and you are restricted to using this lab for only GIS and mapping activities. No word processing or paper writing.