

geog370 introduction to cartography

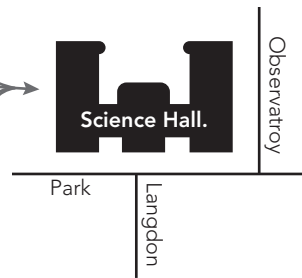
WHO—WHAT—WHEN—WHERE

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lecturer

lecture 2:30p–3:45p TR 360
office hrs 10:00a–11:00a WF m390
or by appointment

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lab 6:00p–8:00p T 380
1:15p–3:15p W
office hrs 11:30a–12:30p TR m376
or by appointment



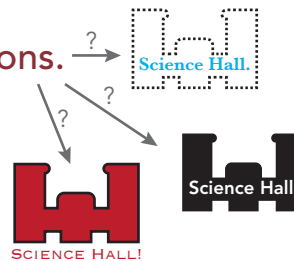
WHAT YOU HAVE SIGNED UP FOR

a course about how to make maps. there are lots of options in map design, and we'll learn about a variety of symbols and typefaces and projections and more. but the biggest thing we'll focus on is how to think like a designer, which means taking all those options and making smart choices about when to use each.

at its heart, mapmaking is really all about **making decisions.**

there is no one right way to make a map.
there are no rules that can always tell us what to do.

so we will learn a bunch of ideas for making maps, and then think through those options carefully until we figure out which one works best for a given situation.



WHERE GRADES COME FROM

lab exercises — 30%

you'll do 6 assignments in lab, which will give you an understanding of the basics of the software and the practical issues involved in assembling a map. each assignment is weighted equally, but some will require more time than others. you'll have the opportunity to revise and re-submit one of your lab assignments for re-grading. if you do that, it's due in lab **may 5th or 6th.**

final project — 25%

you'll spend the last few weeks of the class producing a map of your own design and conception. think of it as a masterwork to show off everything you've learned in lecture and lab. midway through the semester you will receive a document which gives more details as to what is expected. the final project is due by noon, on **may 14th.**

cohort critiques — 5%

you will give feedback to the rest of your cohort (see next page) on each members' final project proposal and map.

quizzes — 20%

we will have quizzes every week, which will usually cover material discussed during the previous week's lectures, though sometimes i may throw in something from a bit earlier.

oral exam — 15%

during finals week, you'll spend a few minutes chatting one one-on-one with the lecturer to discuss your knowledge of the topics covered in lecture. this exam is cumulative.

carto-journal — 5%

throughout the semester, you'll be asked to write and draw in your journal. at the end of the course, you'll turn it in for grading. the journal is due by noon, on **may 14th.**

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HOW FINAL GRADES ARE CREATED

there are no points in this course; we only use letter grades. to figure your final grade, we convert all of your letter grades first to the 4-point scale (A=4, AB=3.5, etc.). then we average them together with the weights given on the previous page. then we take that number and convert it back to a letter using the 4-point scale.

COHORTS

at the start of the semester, you'll be assigned to a group of 4–5 students. during the course, you'll have to do some assignments as a group. additionally, your cohort is also an informal support network: if you need lecture notes, help working through labs, etc., check with your cohort colleagues first.

HONORS AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

if you are a graduate student, or taking this course for honors credit, some extra work is necessary: (1) lab 5 asks you to choose between making either an isoline or a dot density map—instead, you must make a single map that uses both techniques; (2) the option to turn in one revised lab for re-grading is now a requirement, and you must turn in two.

OTHER STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW

good, solid cartographic work is likely to earn you a B in this class. earning a grade higher than that means going above and beyond the bare directions you are given. if you want some ideas, talk to your instructors.

it is worth noting that working hard does not guarantee a good grade. effort is important, but if you don't understand the fundamentals, then your map will be poor no matter how many hours you put in. work smarter, not harder.

illness and misfortune happen; if you cannot complete an assignment by the due date, or you're going to miss an exam, please keep both your instructors updated. we are much more understanding when notified in advance.

we'll be making heavy use of learn@uw, so make sure you are checking in regularly for new course materials. lecture images and outlines will be posted there, as well as all lab materials.

WHEN THINGS HAPPEN

lab exercise	date	assignment due
lab 0: arcmap and illustrator	1/20 or 1/21	
lab 1: two states	1/27 or 1/28	watch lynda.com tutorials
lab 1: two states	2/03 or 2/04	
lab 2: projections	2/10 or 2/11	lab 1: two states
lab 3: europe	2/17 or 2/18	lab 2: projections
lab 3: europe	2/24 or 2/25	
lab 3: europe	3/03 or 3/04	
lab 4: choropleths	3/10 or 3/11	lab 3: europe
lab 4: choropleths	3/17 or 3/18	
lab 5: dot/isoline maps	3/24 or 3/25	lab 4: choropleths
	4/07	final project proposal
lab 6: proportional symbols	4/07 or 4/08	lab 5: dot/isoline maps
	4/14	final project feedback
final project work day	4/14 or 4/15	lab 6: proportional symbols
final project check-in	4/21 or 4/22	
final project work day	4/28 or 4/29	
final project presentations	5/05 or 5/06	lab revision
	5/14	final project, carto-journal