Geography 186: Web Cartography
Spring 2019 Course Syllabus

Instructor:
Dr. Alicia Cowart
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Office: 515A McCone Hall
Office hours: Thursdays, 10:30-12:30
Please use signup sheet linked on bCourses

Class Meetings:
Mon & Wed at 12:30 – 3:30pm
CAGE Lab, 535 McCone Hall

Course:
This course will focus on the application of cartographic principles to the design of interactive web maps. We will explore the capabilities and limits of web tools for representing geographic data and examine how recent developments in geospatial technologies have influenced how we both use and produce maps. Students will create their own thematic web map as a final project.

Texts:
Our main text for the course is *Web Cartography: Map Design for Interactive and Mobile Devices* by Ian Muehlenhaus. It is available from the library as an e-book, as a hard copy on 2-hour reserve in the Earth Sciences & Map Library, or you may purchase it through the bookstore/Amazon. Additional reading will be provided on bCourses. Students are expected to complete reading assignments prior to class and be ready to discuss the material.

Attendance & Arrival:
Attendance is expected in every class. It is your responsibility to keep up with the materials and assignments and regular attendance will ensure you get the most out of this class.

Please arrive to class on time. Prompt arrival demonstrates respect for the instructor and/or guest speakers and ensures that you and your peers can begin class without disruption. Important announcements will be given at the beginning of class.

If you have physical or mental health issues that may interfere with your attendance or prompt arrival, please discuss these with the instructor before an attendance issue arises. There are organizations on campus that can help with communicating these concerns.

Excused absences:
If you are ill and may be contagious, please do not come to class. If an emergency arises that conflicts with class time, you do not need to explain your absence. It is your responsibility to keep up with course materials and assignments, therefore if you need to miss class, you should consult bCourses and your peers to learn what you missed and what you need to make up. You only need to contact the instructor if you must miss an important deadline or exam or if your situation will involve missing multiple classes or a significant amount of material.

Grading:
Grading for the course will be based on in-class and out-of-class assignments, a midterm exam, and a final project. Grading will be weighted as follows:
Assignments: 40%
Final Project: 40%
Midterm Exam: 20%

Important Dates:
Midterm Exam: Wednesday, March 20
Final Project Due + Presentations: Monday, May 6 (RRR week)

Cheating and Plagiarism:
Cheating and/or plagiarism will be detrimental to your learning and will result in a failing grade. While you should assist each other in problem solving and sharing information, it is a violation of the campus Student Conduct Policy to copy work or turn in another's work as your own.

CAGE Lab:
Lab Access: Students will be allowed access to the CAGE Lab using their Cal ID card. The lock mechanism on the CAGE Lab door has memory and logs entries. Students may also be issued a key to the building (McCone Hall). Your McCone Hall key must be turned in by the end of the semester. Keys are due the last day of final presentations.

Food & Drink: No food or beverage is allowed in the CAGE Lab at any time. Spill-proof water bottles are allowed – to-go cups are not. Place your food/drink on the table outside the door while you are in the lab and take it with you when you leave.

Hygiene: Always wash your hands prior to entering the lab to help keep the desks, computers, screens, keyboards, and mouses clean.

Other Items:
Please do not bring bicycles into the lab.
Guests must get special permission to use the lab, please do not give unauthorized access to the lab.
Please do not play audible music in the lab, headphones during individual work sessions are fine.
Do not download software onto the lab computers.

Course Outline:

Week	Topic
Jan 23	Introduction
Jan 28 & 30	Understanding Web Maps in Context
Feb 4 & 6	Cartographic Representation
Feb 11 & 13	Open Source Tools & Basemaps
Feb 20	Cartographic Principles
Feb 25 & 27	Data Resources, Classification, & Symbolization
March 4 & 6	Data Wrangling & Adding Interactivity
March 11 & 13	Web Map Design
March 18 & 20	Midterm Review & Exam
March 25 & 27	SPRING BREAK
April 1 & 3	Project Proposals
April 8 & 10	Narrative & Critical Cartography
April 15 & 17	Project Draft 1
April 22 & 24	Future
April 29 & May 1	Project Draft 2
May 6 (RRR)	Final Project Presentations