

December 3rd, 2014

Course Title

GGR 225H1S The Power of Maps and Geographic Information

Course Description

Examines the changing role of geographic information in society. Considers how spatial information is produced, organized, and used in different historical, cultural, and political contexts. Topics examined include: the effects of the shift from print to digital mapping; implications of mobile spatial technologies and the geoweb; open source and open access; production and control of spatial data and information; and alternative cartographies. Introduces geospatial literacy skills.

Class Location & Lecture Times

SS 1069

Thursdays 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Course format

Lectures and class discussions.

Course Objectives

Students will:

- gain an understanding of the evolution and uses of maps and other geographic information
- understand the forces that have transformed traditional geographic information into our digital world, and the impacts these have had on society
- learn the difference between several types of geographic information, how to use them, how to critique them, and how to find them
- be exposed to, and appreciate a variety of different types of geographic information used for mapping, analyses, interpretation, etc.,
- use various digital mapping tools such as Google Earth, Google Fusion Tables, etc.

Instructor

Marcel Fortin
Room 5027, 130 St. George Street (Robarts Library)
Map and Data Library
marcel.fortin@utoronto.ca @mapsgis
416.978.1958

Office Hours

Office hours are held on Wednesdays, 9:30AM-11AM, in the instructor's office in the Map and Data Library, 130 St. George Street.

Teaching Assistants

Corey Bialek coreybialek@hotmail.com
Andrew Merrill andrew.merrill@mail.utoronto.ca

Teaching Assistant Office Hours

TBD

Plagiarism and other Academic Offences

Plagiarism and other academic offences are very serious and could jeopardize your academic career. Refer to the Arts and Science Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters to understand what is considered an academic offence and what are the ramifications: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>

Plagiarism is quoting (or paraphrasing) the work of someone else, including other students, without a proper use of citations. Quotation marks are required when using someone else's words. Students should also discuss with the instructor before submitting any work for which credit has previously been

obtained or is being sought. For further information, please consult the "Rules and Regulations" section of the Arts and Science Calendar at http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Rules_&_Regulations.html and the check the "How not to plagiarize" website at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

Course Website

Log into <http://portal.utoronto.ca> using your UTORid. GGR225 should be linked from your main content page. If you need information on how to activate your UTORid and set your password for the first time, please go to www.utorid.utoronto.ca.

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services

as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

Students may also want to contact Accessibility Services Office if they have problems arising from chronic issues or injuries sustained during the term that affect their ability to do tests. For more information, see <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/Faculty-and-Staff.htm>

Non-Native Speakers of English

Non-native speakers of English who have difficulties with writing or communicating in English should visit the following website for assistance: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/faqs/english-as-second-language>

Audio or video recordings of class

Taking photos and video recordings during classes, and lectures is not permitted. Audio recording of lectures requires permission of the instructor. The unauthorized use of any form of device to audiotape, photograph, video-record or otherwise reproduce lectures, course notes or teaching materials provided by instructors is covered by the [Canadian Copyright Act \(http://www.cb-cda.gc.ca/info/act-e.html\)](http://www.cb-cda.gc.ca/info/act-e.html) and is prohibited. In the case of private use by students with disabilities, the instructor's consent must not be unreasonably withheld.

For further information on these restrictions, please see the Provostial guidelines on the Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology, available at <http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/policy/use.htm>

Assignments and Marking

Grades will be based on your performance in the following series of assignments, quizzes and final exam.

Assignment	Worth	Date
1 Finding, using, and reading maps. Cartographic concepts and interpretation	20	2015/01/29
2 Mid-term examination (in-class)	20	2015/02/12
3 Story Mapping using digital Mapping Tools (Google Earth, Google Tour Builder, Map Engine, ArcGIS online, or any other digital mapping tools) - Combination digital map and essay.	20	2015/03/19
4 In-class quizzes based on readings	10	-
5 Final examination	30	TBD

Assignments are due the day of class (Thursdays), and **before class begins (12:00PM)**. **Class assignments will be accepted in digital (PDF) format only and only through upload into the portal.** If you are unsure about how to produce a PDF document, please contact the instructor or the Teaching Assistants. Please note that most word processors have either a print or export function that can be used to export documents to PDF format.

Late Penalties

5% of the total mark for the assignment will be deducted for every day (24 hours), including weekend and holidays, that an assignment is late.

Extensions

Extensions on assignments will be granted only in the case of illness or other non-medical emergencies. If you do become ill (or otherwise incapacitated) you must provide the instructor with appropriate documentation. For a late assignment, contact the instructor as soon as possible – and no later than one-week after the original assignment due date. For medical exemptions, only an official U of T form will be accepted (available online here <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/>). Please consult your college registrar if you are having difficulties during the term that prevent you from completing your course work. For non-medical emergencies, they may be able to provide a letter documenting your situation. Be aware that submitting a note which has been altered or obtained under false pretences is considered a very serious offence by the University.

Term-work remark requests

Remark requests must be made no later than two weeks after work has been returned. Any enquiries about grading on term work must be made within two weeks of the return date of the work. This is in accordance with Arts and Science rules and regulations as specified in the calendar. Any material submitted for remarking should also be accompanied by a written explanation detailing your reasons for requesting the instructor to review the assignment. Note also if a remarking is granted, the student must accept the resulting mark as the new mark, whether it goes up or down or remains the same.

Lectures

Week	Date	Lecture Title	Readings
1	January 8	Course introduction - defining maps; broad discussion on maps and geographic information	-
2	January 15	Maps - types and uses of maps; progress, evolution and the history of cartography	Harley & Woodward
3	January 22	Repositories of maps and geographic information and Digital Earth - An introduction to paper map collections and Digital Mapping Technologies	Young & Brotton
4	January 29	Deconstructing the Map (Assignment 1 due)	Crampton
5	February 5	"Persuasive Cartography - Maps and Geographic information that "restrict, enrage, and enflame"; nationalism and maps; maps and propaganda	Loughlan
6	February 12	mid-term examination (in-class)	-
7	February 19	NO CLASS - READING WEEK	-
8	February 26	Geographic information and map literacy	CBC News Item
9	March 5	Beyond Maps and Mapping - aboriginal mapping; literature, music, art, and maps	Belyea
10	March 12	Digital Mapping Technologies	Mark et al.
11	March 19	Management and Control of Geographic Information and Data (Assignment 2 due)	Klinkenberg
12	March 26	Geographic Information in a Google World - GeoEverything, Personal Mapping & Mapping the Past	Goodchild
13	April 2	The future of maps and geographic information and course review	

Note

The instructor reserves the right to modify the topics, readings and schedule during the semester.

Assigned and Suggested Readings

There is no textbook for this course. The following readings are from digital sources available to students via the University of Toronto Libraries, or freely from the web. The readings will supplement each lecture, and should inform discussions in class. Please note that some of the readings are behind the U of T Libraries firewall. To gain access you will either have to sign in using your UTORID, before being able to download items; or you will need to be on campus using either the U of T wireless

system; or be using a U of T connected computer. The readings will also be loaded, when applicable, to the course website on blackboard.

Belyea, Barbara. "Amerindian Maps: The Explorer as Translator." *Journal of Historical Geography* 18, no. 3 (1992): 267–77. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/030574889290203L>.

CBC News. "Professor Says Students Can't Identify Continents on Map." Accessed December 6, 2014. <http://www.cbc.ca/1.1324022>.

Crampton, Jeremy. "Reflection Essay: Deconstructing the Map." In *Classics in Cartography: Reflections on Influential Articles from Cartographica*, 295–304. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley & Sons, 2010. <https://books1.scholarsportal.info/viewdoc.html?id=409127&page=303>.

Goodchild, Michael F. *What Does Google Earth Mean for the Social Sciences?*. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, 2008. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/9780470987643.ch2>.

Harley, J.B., and David Woodward. "Why Cartography Needs Its History." *Cartography and Geographic Information Science* 16, no. 1 (January 1989): 5–15. <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/acsm/cagis/1989/00000016/00000001/art00001>.

Klinkenberg, B. "The True Cost of Spatial Data in Canada." *The Canadian Geographer/Le Géographe Canadien* 47, no. 1 (2003): 37–49. http://resolver.scholarsportal.info/resolve/00083658/v47i0001/37_ttcosdic.

Loughlan, V. (2014) 'Theory Talk #65: Jordan Branch on Google Maps, State Formation, and the International Politics of Cartography', *Theory Talks*, <http://www.theory-talks.org/2014/11/theory-talk-65.html> (10- 11-2014)

Mark, David, Nicholas Chrisman, Andrew Frank, Patrick McHaffie, and John Pickles. "The GIS History Project." Accessed March 6, 2011. http://www.ncgia.buffalo.edu/gishist/bar_harbor.html.

Young, Nora, and Jerry Brotton. Jerry Brotton on the History of Maps. Spark. Accessed December 6, 2014. <http://www.cbc.ca/spark/full-interviews/2012/12/07/jerry-brotton-on-the-history-of-maps/>.