

Course Outline

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
GEOGRAPHY 3241b (Advanced Cartography)
Spring 2015

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course allows students who have acquired some background in geographic spatial analysis and visualization techniques (cartography, remote sensing and/or GIS) to gain further experience in one or more of those areas while working on a full-term practical project. Note that this course will not introduce you to fields in which you have no background - you must take the appropriate 2000-level course to acquire that experience. This course was previously numbered GEOG 342.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Philip J. Stooke, room 2425 SSC

Phone: 661-2111 ext. 85022

(NOTE: please do not leave voice messages on that number until further notice, due to an access problem at my end)

INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday, each day, 11:30 to 12:30 in the MAP AND DATA CENTRE, Weldon Library ([LOCATION](#)), or by appointment, or just drop by my office any time (best days - Tuesday to Thursday). **NOTE:** Because those office hours are held in the Weldon Library, you can not reach me on my office phone during those times.

e-mail: pjstooke@uwo.ca

website: publish.uwo.ca/~pjstooke

Return to [Department of Geography](#)

LECTURES (held in SSC 2024): Mondays, 3:30 - 5:30

LABS (held in SSC 1316A): Tuesdays, 3:30 - 5:30

Students who have taken one or more of the 2000-level Geography courses in the areas of Cartography, GIS and Remote Sensing can build on that background in this course to gain further practical experience by undertaking a large term project. Since the project is the entire focus of this course, a subject can be explored in greater depth than normal course assignments permit. Topic definition, data collection, design and implementation will form components of this project. Marks will be assigned to a proposal, progress reports, and the final project itself. After an initial series of lectures dealing with project design and related practical issues, much of the class time will be devoted to advice and problem-solving, with the instructor working with individuals and small groups. Depending on numbers and interests, the class may also spend some time working in Interest Groups consisting of students with similar topics. Lab time is used for individual project advice and assistance, problem solving etc.

READINGS: There is no textbook for this course. Readings may be assigned, and if so will be placed on reserve in the D.B. Weldon Library.

PRINT CREDITS: Unfortunately the Department of Geography does not give out free print credits for this course. You may purchase print credits in 1316A (follow instructions on the notice board at the front of the lab), or print at Imprint, Books Plus or elsewhere. Remember - you can save a Corel Draw file as a JPG image via the File menu : File-Export, NOT File-Save as. That JPG file can be printed on its own or placed in a Word or Powerpoint file for printing.

ACCESSIBILITY:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

EVALUATION: The final mark is the sum of marks for four assignments and three brief class presentations. There is no examination. A systematic adjustment may be applied to these marks at the end of term. The breakdown is as follows: (due dates - see schedule)

Assignments:

1. Proposal: 20%
2. Proposal presentation 5%
3. Progress report 1: 15%
4. Progress presentation 5%
5. Progress report 2: 10%
6. Project presentation 5%
7. Final Project: 40%

REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSIGNMENTS: These are described on the Assignments page. If assignment due dates are missed, whether due to illness or any other factor, they must be made up during the remainder of the term on a schedule agreed by the student and instructor. Students are directed to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical illness (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>) for additional information. The exception is the presentations, which are for the benefit of the class, not the instructor, and must be made on the assigned day. There will be no opportunity to make up a missed presentation, but an alternative means of fulfilling the requirement may be negotiated by the instructor and student if there was a good reason for missing the class.

MARKING:

Marking of assignments in this course is based on ranking. All items handed in are considered together for each individual assignment. Typically, the majority will be reasonably well put together (well written, showing reasonable effort, well developed ideas, illustrations of design ideas or examples of work completed, etc.) A few will be less adequate (missing components,

poor writing, apparently put together at the last minute, poorly developed ideas, no (or poor quality) sketches or examples of work to show progress, etc.). A few will stand out as exceptionally good (very well written, clear signs of extra effort beyond what was asked for, fully developed ideas, good quality illustrations of design plans or work completed, etc.). The large middle group will receive marks in the B range (mid-70-percent range). The lower group, if any, will receive marks in the C range, and the higher group will receive marks in the A range. Since assignments vary in nature, expectations vary between them, but this basic pattern applies to all of them.

The final mark distribution for this course will be adjusted if necessary to give a class average in the 'B' range, approximately 75%. Marks in the A range, 80% or higher, will be limited to students significantly above the average level of achievement.

PREREQUISITE CHECKING:

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that prerequisite courses have been passed prior to registration in this course. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

PLAGIARISM:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg113.html>

All work you hand in must be your own. You may seek advice from other students regarding design, techniques or software operations, but you must not share or duplicate map files, including base maps. This includes finding another student's saved file on a computer, making minor modifications, and passing the work off as your own. Any offence will trigger the procedure outlined on the linked document.

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS:

[Registrar's Services](#)

[Student Development Services](#)

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

[Medical Accommodation](#)

For a downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC) see:

[Student Services](#) under the Medical Documentation heading

POSSIBLE TOPICS:

The following are only suggestions intended to show part of the wide range of possibilities. Use your imagination! Try to pick something you are personally interested in. One possible approach to consider is that some students have used this course to prepare work they can show to prospective employers.

Cartography:

1. **Large sheet map** (e.g. tourist facilities of downtown Toronto, recreation map of the Bruce Peninsula; archeological sites of the Stonehenge region, photomosaic of an Ontario County; record of personal travel (past or anticipated), Mars landing sites).

2. **Atlas** (e.g. Evolution of downtown London, 1840-1990; Canadian university campuses; Tourist atlas of (you name it); Battlefields of the War of 1812; Air photo atlas of Essex County; Atlas of 20th Century U.S. hurricanes; Natural disasters in British Columbia Since 1900). An atlas could also be presented on screen as a PDF file or Powerpoint presentation rather than on paper.

3. **Artistic map**. NOTE: Some maps today are designed to be artistic rather than technical in appearance - for instance, tourist maps with photographs or drawings and text pasted onto a schematic or sketch map, or maps illustrating travel articles or works of fiction (e.g. Lord of the Rings). If you pick a suitable topic you can create a map like this by hand rather than on a computer. Some maps used for education or public display might be made as 3D models. You could make a map like that, but what you hand in at the end of term should be a series of photographs of it, not the model itself.

HTML project:

A map project presented as an HTML (World Wide Web) document, i.e. a map-based website. Note that the emphasis is on maps... this is a cartography course. Past projects have sometimes been too heavily concerned with non-map content, but I emphasize here that you must concentrate on creating your own maps for this type of project, and text, photos etc. should be subsidiary to the map content.

Remote Sensing/GIS:

1. Creating a multi-layer data set:

Select an area, find suitable data sets, convert to format for your choice of software, register everything (examples: air or space photography; topography, land use, zoning, geology etc. data for a region: collect or create the layers and register them to form a GIS database).

2. **Analyzing a data set:** smaller version of (1) above, used to try to solve a realistic problem.

Schedule for this term

(January to April 2015)

(subject to minor modifications)

| Week | Dates | Lecture | Assignment |
|------|------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Jan. 5 - 9 | Introduction | - |
| 2 | Jan. 12 - 16 | Project design | - |
| 3 | Jan. 19 - 23 | Project discussions, advice, problem-solving | - |
| 4 | Jan. 26 - 30 | Proposal statements in Monday class PRESENTATION! | PROPOSAL DUE (by Friday 4:00 pm) |
| 5 | Feb. 2 - 6 | Map and Atlas design | - |
| 6 | Feb. 9 - 13 | HTML and web graphic design | - |
| 7 | Feb. 16 - 20 | READING WEEK - no classes | - |
| 8 | Feb. 23 - 27 | Progress statements in Monday class PRESENTATION! | PROGRESS REPORT 1 DUE (by Friday 4:00 pm) |
| 9 | Mar. 2 - 6 | Project discussions, advice, problem-solving | - |
| 10 | Mar. 9 - 13 | Project discussions, advice, problem-solving | - |
| 11 | Mar. 16 - 20 | Catch-up week - continue work on project | PROGRESS REPORT 2 DUE (by Friday 4:00 pm, under Prof's door!) |
| 12 | Mar. 23 - 27 | Project discussions, advice, problem-solving | Reports returned (Tuesday) |
| 12 | Mar. 30 - Apr. 3 | Project discussions, advice, problem-solving | - |
| 13 | Apr. 6 - 10 | Project Presentations in Monday class PRESENTATION! | PROJECT DUE (by Friday 4:00 pm) |

NOTE: details of assignment requirements are found on the assignments page of the website.