

Western University
Geog 2240B: Introductory Cartography
Course Outline – Subject to Change
Winter 2016

Lectures

Location: SSC 2024
Days: Wednesdays
Hours: 9:30 am – 11:30 pm

Labs

Location SSC 1316A
Day/Times: Monday 9:30 – 11:30, 11:30 – 1:30, Tuesday 12:30 – 2:30,
Wednesday 1:30 – 3:30

Instructor Information

Christopher Hewitt
SSC 2233
chewitt4@uwo.ca
Office Hours: SSC 1316A Tuesday 9:30 – 11:30

Course Syllabus

This course is an “introduction to cartographic theory, map design and drafting, including practical experience with many methods of graphic representation of spatial data” (*Academic Calendar*). Practical experience is given in different methods of representation of geographical data, with emphasis on the map as a means of communication of research results. Lab exercises are necessarily very time-consuming, so students must be prepared to commit time outside class hours. Students are expected to attend all classes and labs, and to be suitably prepared for labs and the final exam. Preparation should include having read all readings before class.

2 lecture hours, 2 lab hours, 0.5 course

Objectives:

1. Provide students with an introduction to effective map design.
2. Recognize the key elements of a map.
3. Identify the various types of maps and how they are displayed.
4. Recognize that maps are representations of the world and that uncertainty exists.

Prerequisites

1.0 course from Geography 1100, 1300A/B, 1400F/G, 1500F/G, 2131A/B, 2153A/B (taken after September 2012), or the former Geography 020E; or enrolment in the Major in Physical Geography.

"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."

Course Materials

Brewer, Cynthia A. (2005). *Designing better Maps: A Guide for GIS Users*. Redlands, CA: ESRI Press (On Reserve at Weldon Library).

Brewer, Cynthia A. (2008). *Designed Maps*. Redlands, CA: ESRI Press.

Additional materials may be placed on WebCT which the students are expected to review and bring to class. There may also be a display in the map library which students are encouraged to look at outside of class.

Schedule: Lectures

Day	Topic	Reading
6-Jan	Introduction and Map Design	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 1 and 7
13-Jan	Earth Coordinates and Projections	
20-Jan	Coordinate Systems and Scale	
27-Jan	Text on Maps	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 2 and 3
3-Feb	Qualitative Maps	Brewer, 2008, Ch. 5 and Brewer, 2005, Ch. 6
10-Feb	Colour on Maps	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 4 and 5
17-Feb	Reading Week	
24-Feb	Quantitative Maps	Brewer, 2008, Ch. 6
2-Mar	Image Maps	
9-Mar	Relief Portrayal	
16-Mar	Relief Portrayal II and 3-D Mapping	
23-Mar	Map Accuracy and Uncertainty	
30-Mar	Map Use	
6-Apr	Review	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 1 and 7 Revisited

Schedule: Labs

Week	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
4-Jan	No Labs		
11-Jan	Map Reading (Lab 1)	Brewer, 2008, Ch. 5	
18-Jan	Work Period on Lab 1		
25-Jan	Labels (Lab 2)	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 2 and 3	Lab 1 Due
1-Feb	Work Period on Labels		
8-Feb	Qualitative Maps (Lab 3)	Brewer, 2005, Chs. 4 and 5 p. 122 – 5	Lab 2 Due
15-Feb	Reading Week		
22-Feb	Work Period on Lab 3		
29-Feb	Quantitative Maps (Lab 4)	Brewer, 2005, Ch. 5 p. 116 – 21 and Ch. 6	Lab 3 Due
7-Mar	Work Period on Lab 4		
14-Mar	Relief Portrayal (Lab 5)		Lab 4 Due
21-Mar	Work Period on Lab 5		
28-Mar	In Lab Assignment		Lab 5 Due
4-Apr	No Labs		

Methods of Evaluation of Assignments

Evaluation Breakdown:

- 40% Assignments
- 15% Participation
- 25% Final Exam 2 hours (TBA)
- 20% In Lab Assignment

The assignments **must be submitted at the start of lab to your TA** (i.e. Monday at 9:30 or 11:30, Tuesday at 12:30 or Wednesday at 1:30). If the assignment is submitted after the start of your scheduled lab time, it is considered late.

**The late penalty for assignments is 10% per day including weekends
Unless student has received appropriate medical or compassionate accommodation.

Participation will be graded through the completion of in class assignments and attendance to labs when a new lab is introduced.

The exam will consist of multiple choice, calculations, diagrams and written short answer questions.

The in lab assignment will be graded similarly to the other assignments.

Grading Criteria:

A (over 80%) assignments are well designed maps which clearly reflect the concepts introduced in class.

B (70 – 79%) maps reflect the class concepts but not to the detailed level of clarity of an “A” student.

C (60 – 69%) maps reflect the concepts from class in only a satisfactory manner.

D (50 – 59%) maps barely meet the requirements of the class.

F (below 50%) maps have not met the requirements of the class.

E-mails

Please include the course number in the subject heading or it may not be responded to. I will usually respond to e-mails **within 48 hours** however, I do **not** check e-mail on weekends. I will not respond to an e-mail **48 hours before an assignment, or test**. In the event the e-mail requires a lengthy response then it is preferable that you drop by my office hours or arrange an appointment.

Missed Work and Medical or Compassionate Absence Policy:

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

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Additional Statements

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

Statement on Academic Offences

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.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources:

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

Western's commitment to accessibility

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying, visiting and working at Western.

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.

Support Services

Registrarial Services: <http://www3.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm>

Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>