

GEOG 5210 – Fundamentals of GIS

Instructor

Professor Desheng Liu
Email: liu.738@osu.edu
Office: 1189 Derby Hall
Phone: 247-2775
Office Hours: M 10:15AM–12:15PM, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant

Mr. Chengbi Liu
Email: liu.3959@buckeyemail.osu.edu
Office: 0155 Derby Hall
Office Hours: MW 1:20PM–2:20PM, or by appointment

Lectures

155 Jennings Hall, MW 9:10AM–10:05AM

Labs

0140 Derby Hall, M 8:00AM–8:55AM or W 11:30AM–12:25PM

Course Website

The course schedule, announcements, lecture notes, lab assignments, and other course information will be posted on Carmen (<https://carmen.osu.edu>).

Required Textbook

Bolstad, P. (2012). *GIS Fundamentals: A First Text on Geographic Information Systems* (Fourth Edition), Eider Press, White Bear Lake, MN. ISBN: 978-0971764736.

Course Description and Objectives

This course provides an introduction to fundamental principles and applications of geographic information systems (GIS). The objectives are: (1) to help students understand basic concepts and principles of GIS, (2) to help students acquire practical GIS technical skills to solve real-world problems, and (3) to help students develop critical spatial thinking in geographical research.

Grading Policy

Your final course grade will be based on the following weighting of assessment components:

Class Exercises	20%
Labs	45%
Midterm Exams	15%
Final Exam	20%

- Class exercises will be frequently given throughout the semester. They are designed to help students understand the lecture notes and do well in exams. Students will receive credits by showing efforts in class but no make-ups will be given for absence.
- All assignments should be turned in on time. Late submissions will NOT be accepted. However, your lowest lab score will be dropped.
- There will be two midterm exams during the semester as well as a final exam. Students must take all exams to receive credits. No make-up exams will be given unless legitimate documents for medical or personal emergency are presented **prior to** the exams.

Final course grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

A: 93–100 | **A-:** 90–92 | **B+:** 87–89 | **B:** 83–86 | **B-:** 80–82 | **C+:** 77–79
C: 73–76 | **C-:** 70–72 | **D+:** 67–69 | **D:** 60–66 | **F:** below 60

Course Schedule

Course schedule will be posted on Carmen. Students should check the course schedule on Carmen frequently for updates.

Student Responsibility

You are responsible for your own learning. I am here solely to facilitate your learning. I will help you as much as I can, but learning the material is ultimately up to you. This includes:

- Attending class meetings or getting assignments and notes from others if you miss class;
- Asking questions when you have them, either in class or out of class;
- Doing the assignments on time and participating in class;
- Contacting me if you have difficulties.

Communication Devices

Cell phones and other communication devices must be either turned off or put on vibrate during class. Please refrain from texting during class as a courtesy to those sitting around

you. All electronic devices other than a calculator must be shut off and put away during examinations.

Academic Misconduct

Please help maintain an academic environment of mutual respect and fair treatment. It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term academic misconduct includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). Academic misconduct will not be tolerated and will be dealt with procedurally in accordance with university policy, which is available at <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam.html>. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/csc/>.

Students with Disabilities

All students who feel they may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. Students with documented disabilities must also contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) in 150 Pomerene Hall (614-292-3307) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for the course. ODS forms must be given to your instructor as early in the semester as possible to be filled out and returned to you.

Receiving an 'I' for the Course

You cannot receive an incomplete for the course unless 70% of the work in the course has been completed. Extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis.