GEOG 5210 Fundamentals of GIS – Summer 2017

Meeting Times
Lecture: Tuesdays AND Thursdays, 9:50am – 11:25am, **Smith Lab 1005**
Lab: Tuesdays OR Thursdays, 12:00am – 1:30pm, **Derby Hall 0135**

Instructor Name and Email: Rohit Mukherjee, mukherjee.110@osu.edu
Office Hours and Location: My office is Derby Hall **0153** (Just beside the Lab class). My office hours are by appointment only. If you would like to schedule a meeting with me, please mail.

Course Description: This course introduces principles of geographic information systems and their applications in spatial analysis and information management. The course is designed to give students an understanding of cutting-edge geospatial technologies, their capabilities, uses, and limitations. Representative applications for each discipline area are demonstrated in the computer laboratory portion.

Schedule: You can find a link to the course schedule on the course website.

Texts (required):
- For lecture, we will use the book *GIS Fundamentals: A First Text on Geographic Information Systems, 5th Edition* (2016) by Paul Bolstad as the required text. Available at Student Book Exchange (SBX), Barnes & Noble The Ohio State University Bookstore, Amazon (see https://amzn.com/1506695876), or the publisher's website (https://www.xanedu.com/higher-education/educators/custom-bookscatalog/gis_fund_5e/), which is where you can find an eBook, if you prefer that option.
- I will provide the first two chapters of the textbook on the course website to give you time to obtain the textbook, if you do not already have it. However, you will be expected to have your own copy of the textbook for remaining readings.

Evaluation:
- **Labs: 50%**
    - There will be 10 Labs, all of which will be made available at the beginning of the course
    - Every Friday, 2 Labs will be due, beginning from Labs 1 and 2 due 26th May and ending with Labs 9 and 10 due June 23rd
    - All lab assignments will be submitted via the course website. More specific instructions regarding how to submit your lab assignment will be provided at the end of each lab's instructions.

- o Do not expect to complete all your lab work during the scheduled lab time. You will need to dedicate time outside of class to completing your labs.
- **Exams: 40%**
  - o There will be 2 exams, which will be administered using scantrons
  - o Each exam will contain 33 questions, but only 30 correct answers are required to make a 100%. The highest grade you can make on any exam is a 100%.
  - o Please bring your BuckID, a scientific calculator, and a #2 pencil to every exam.
  - o See lecture schedule for dates of exams.
- **Participation/Attendance: 10%**
  - o Lecture attendance is expected and may be recorded without warning. You are allowed to miss only 1 lecture session without penalty.
  - o Lab attendance is required and will be recorded at all lab sessions. You are allowed to miss only 1 lab session without penalty.
- **Grading Scale (OSU standard scale)**

Policies:
1. *Course website policy.* You are responsible for all announcements, additional reading, assignments and other material posted at the Canvas site, so be sure to check it frequently. Note:
   a. You may find that it helps to update your notifications. You can do this by going to Account > Notifications. There are four notification options, and I suggest that you turn on "Notify me right away" or at least "Send daily summary" for everything until you figure out which notifications are most beneficial to you.
   b. There is a Canvas app available for iPhone and Android, which you may find beneficial for keeping up with the course website.
2. *Lab questions policies*.
   a. On the course website, there will be a discussion for each lab. If you have questions about labs outside of the scheduled lab time, you are required to use the appropriate discussion to post your questions. Your instructor will be notified of your post and will respond as soon as possible. Please do NOT email your lab-related question to your instructor unless it is a grade-related question.
   b. Additionally, you are required to post your lab-related questions before 2pm on the day that the lab is due to allow me time to respond, so please plan accordingly (i.e. do not procrastinate)!
3. *Late policy*. Labs and other assignments will be penalized 10% for each business day late and will not be accepted beyond 1 week late. Extensions will not be granted due to lost work; be sure you back up and keep all of your work.
4. *Exam policies*.
   a. Exams must be taken at the scheduled time, unless you have a documented reason for your absence. You also must contact me in advance of the scheduled exam to schedule a make-up exam, except in the case of emergency.

     b. Additionally, you are excepted to arrive *on time* to all exams. Students who arrive late to the exam will be permitted to begin the exam, until the first student leaves. After a student completes the exam and leaves, students who arrive late will not be permitted to begin the exam and will be asked to leave.

5. *Disability services*. Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/

6. *Academic misconduct*. 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). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct: http://studentlife.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf

Classroom and Computers:

You must swipe your BuckID to access the classroom in Derby 0135. (Note: The card scanners are sometimes unreliable. You may need to swipe more than once, and you may need to wait a second or two after swiping to open the door, giving the scanner a chance to unlock the door. If you continue to have problems, please notify the office staff in Derby 1036.)

To access the computers in Derby 0135 and 0140, you may use the following login information:

- Username: G5210
- Password: Geog-5210SU17

To access the internet, you need to visit the following website and login:
https://nauth1.auth.infosec.ohio-state.edu

If you need to return to the computer lab outside of class time, please be aware that the building is sometimes locked at night and over the weekends, so be sure to plan accordingly. Also, when you do return to the computer lab outside of class time, be sure to check the schedule on the door. There may be a class in session, so please attempt to avoid interrupting classes that are in session. If there *is* a class in session, check the computer lab across the hall in Derby 0140. It has the same software as Derby 0135, and it is usually available.

Software:

You are NOT required to download the software we will be using in the course onto your own computer. However, information on obtaining ArcGIS is provided here.

ArcGIS. You may request a 1-year student trial license. Just email me for an activation code. You will then need to activate the code and download the software here: http://www.esri.com/software/landing_pages/arcgis/desktop-ed

If you choose to go this route, there is a detailed document regarding the entire process of downloading and installing ArcGIS and authorizing it using an authorization code available on the course website, entitled ESRI_installation_tips.pdf. If your installation-related questions are not answered by this document, you will need to contact ESRI Customer Support at 1 (888) 3774575.

Please note that ArcGIS for Desktop is NOT certified or supported on the Mac operating system. However, if you have an Apple computer running Windows, you can install ArcGIS for Desktop using VMWare, BootCamp, or Parallels. To learn more, please visit this link: http://edcommunity.esri.com/software-and-data/mac-os-support.

Disclaimer: This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. Any changes will be announced with as much advance notice as possible.