

Geography 4330.060: Geographical Information Systems

Meets with Crij 5310

MoWe 2:30 to 3:50

Via Zoom link <https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/93791900082?pwd=bIRyNkY5bE5mSGFMeFVsWWIvRk5zdz09>

Passcode: 56789

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. E. Cory Sills

Office: CAS 142

Office hours: MW 11am to 12:30 Via Zoom link:

<https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/95142359139?pwd=OnFZcEtsS0NhbHM5WXPkC1lhVkEvdz09>

Passcode: 56789

Or by appointment

E-mail: esills@uttyler.edu ph:903-566-7442

Communications: I encourage you to visit my office hours via zoom or directly after class via zoom. This is a good opportunity for you to look over your homework, exams, ask questions, or seek clarification. If you cannot attend my office hours you may set-up an alternative time to meet. I will try to respond promptly to your emails. **In your email, include your first and last name and that you are enrolled in the GIS class.**

All of us, including myself, will need to be **flexible** this semester because of the coronavirus. If you are sick and cannot attend a class that is okay. All I ask, is that you communicate with me. If I get sick with Covid, you will be notified by email and I will send you a contingency plan. I understand that some students will be using their computers at home or in non-traditional locations with more distractions than an in-person class. If this happens (i.e. parent walks in, animal jumps on lap, or kid will not let you work) do not be embarrassed. Everyone is having to adjust to new ways of learning and working right now. I too will have distractions when I am teaching, especially from home.

Required texts:

1. Mastering ArcGIS, 7th edition, Meredith Price, McGraw Hill, 2015.

Required materials: Computer or access to a computer.

Catalogue description: Geographic Information Systems Fundamentals of geographic information systems, including data capture, storage, processing, and output. Applications to various problems in the natural and social sciences.

Course objective: This course is a comprehensive introduction to the principles, techniques, and applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The course is designed to combine lectures with practical application of the ArcGIS software. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to (1) understand basic concepts and principles of GIS, (2) gain hands-on experience in the use of GIS techniques and software, (3) learn how to analyze information spatially. Specific skills learned include ArcGIS software and SQL language.

Course format: We will meet online via zoom twice a week (**see the above zoom link**). You must have access to a computer or a laptop. The class will be a combination of lecture and practical application. To begin, I will lecture on Monday's and we will work on labs on Wednesdays. This will probably last for the first two weeks. As the class progresses, and I feel comfortable that you can work somewhat independently, I will post the lectures and the labs to Canvas and reserve Mondays and Wednesday's for working on the labs. These sessions are listed as Zoom lab on the schedule posted below. This way I will be able to help the class. On these days, the time will consist of practical application (i.e. labs using the software program ArcGIS 10.2) from the textbook.

Prior to class time, review the schedule for the class and read the assigned chapter or article. You will have enough time in class to complete most of your lab assignments. You may access the program ArcGIS using the virtual desktop on your personal computer. Type **one.uttyler.edu** directly into your url. The readings for the course allow completion of the labs. The lectures will introduce you to the basic fundamental principles of GIS and will not necessarily cover the same ground as the textbook. Indeed, they are intended to supplement each other rather than to completely overlap. I strongly recommend that you attend every class and complete all of the labs. I encourage relevant questions and comments during

class time. A question you have other students might also have, and thoughtful remarks will make the course more interesting for everyone, including myself.

Class Etiquette: I expect everyone in the classroom to be **respectful** of each other and treat everyone with dignity. I expect comments to be positive and objective and not judgmental and rude.

Exams and grading: There will be two take home exams that will be administered and submitted through Canvas. Exam 1 will cover material from the beginning of the semester and Exam 2 will cover material from the second part of the semester. Exams include multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. There will also be a series of labs that will be assigned each week. You have approximately one week to finish each lab. **The lab assignments are due on Canvas by noon the week after they are assigned (see schedule for due dates).** I will drop the lowest lab grade at the end of the semester. All lab instructions and submissions will be through Canvas.

Make-up tests will be given with a legitimate reason and in rare circumstances. Students should contact the instructor **prior** to the exam and not after if they will miss the exam. Make-up exams will not be given except when there are exceptional circumstances (be prepared to provide documentation of your circumstance, such as a doctor's note, police report, University-excused absence, *et cetera*). Five points will deducted each day for late labs.

- Grading scale: A 90-100% B 80-89.99% C 70-79.99%
 D 60-69.99% F 0-59.99%

Mid-term: 15%

Final: 15%

Lab Exercises: 70%

Total: 100%

Cell Phones/Lap tops: Turn off your ringer and do not use your cell phone during class – this includes text messaging. If you are expecting an important call please put your phone on vibrate and sit close to the door. This action will help minimize any disturbance to the class. **I will not be recording this class. Any video, photographic or audio recordings of the class must be approved by me.**

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations](#). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

The University of Texas at Tyler has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Like so many things this Fall, the need for accommodations and the process for arranging them may be altered by the COVID-19 changes we are experiencing and the safety protocols currently in place. Students with disabilities who may need accommodation(s) in order to fully participate in this class are urged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources Office (SAR) as soon as possible, to explore what arrangements need to be made to ensure access. During the Fall 2020 semester, SAR will be conducting all appointments via ZOOM. If you have a disability, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student Application. For more information, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices> or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor), must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;

- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

**Incidence of Scholastic Dishonesty: You will receive an automatic zero on the assignment.
All cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic zero for the assignment!**

What we cover in the lecture on a day-to-day basis may differ from the attached schedule. I will inform the class if topics change. All lab instructions are on zoom. All labs will be submitted via zoom.

Course Schedule

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Reading
1	M	8/24	Lecture: Mapping the Course/What is GIS? By zoom Activity: Mental Mapping and Access the remote desktop and start ArcGIS	Syllabus/Introduction of textbook
1	W	8/26	Lecture: GIS Data by zoom Start Lab 1 (Due 9/2 at noon)	Chapter 1
2	M	8/31	Lecture: Mapping GIS Data Zoom Lab 1	Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
2	W	9/2	Due: Lab 1 at noon Start Lab 2 (Due 9/14 at noon) Zoom Lab 2 Census Date on Friday the 4th	Chapter 2
3	M	9/7	Labor Day: No Class	
3	W	9/9	Due: Lab 2 at noon Start Lab 3 (Due 9/16 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 3
4	M	9/14	Lecture: Map Projections Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 3
4	W	9/16	Due: Lab 3 at noon Start Lab 4 (Due 9/23 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 4
5	M	9/21	Lecture: Attributes Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 4
5	W	9/23	Due: Lab 4 at noon Start Lab 5 (Due 9/30 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 5
6	M	9/28	Lecture: Queries Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 5
6	W	9/30	Due: Lab 5 at noon Receive Exam 1 on Canvas	
7	M	10/5	Zoom Lab	

7	W	10/7	Exam 1 Due at noon on Canvas Start Lab 6 (Due 10/14 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 6
8	M	10/12	Lecture: SQL and Spatial Joins Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 6
8	W	10/14	Due: Lab 6 at noon Start Lab 7 (Due 10/21 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 7
9	M	10/19	Lecture: Spatial Analysis Functions Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 7
9	W	10/21	Due: Lab 7 at noon Start Lab 8 (Due 10/28 at noon) Zoom Lab	Chapter 8
10	M	10/26	Lecture: Raster Analysis Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 8
10	W	10/28	Due: Lab 8 at noon Start Lab 9 (Due 11/4) Zoom Lab	Chapter 9
11	M	11/2	Lecture: Networks Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab Last Day to Withdraw	Chapter 9
11	W	11/4	Due: Lab 9 at noon Start Lab 10 (Due 11/11) Zoom Lab	Chapter 10
12	M	11/9	Lecture: Coordinate Systems Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	Chapter 11
12	W	11/11	Due: Lab 10 at noon Start Lab 11 (Due 11/18) Zoom Lab	Chapter 11
13	M	11/16	Lecture: GIS Posted to Canvas Zoom Lab	
13	W	11/18	Due Lab 11 at noon	
	M	11/23	Thanksgiving No Zoom Lab	

	W	11/25	Thanksgiving No Zoom Lab	
14	M	11/30	No lecture Zoom lab	
14	W	12/2	Zoom lab All outstanding labs are due Receive Exam 2 on Canvas	
15	M	12/7	No class	
15	W	12/9	Exam 2 is Due on Canvas	