

GEOG 647
ADVANCED RESEARCH & APPLICATIONS
IN GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Timetable: FALL SESSION

Instructors: Marnie Taggart and Nigel Waters

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Course Content: The aim of this course is to provide you with an advanced overview of GIS. It assumes that you have an excellent background in GIS but to insure that you have no gaps in your knowledge the course will cover a wide range of material. The course lectures will follow the outline of the textbook quite closely. The main difference in the lectures is that there will be extensive emphasis on Canadian material that is almost absent from the text. There will also be a much deeper exploration of many conceptual and theoretical issues. There will be more emphasis on the literature. The labs will provide an exhaustive overview of ArcGIS 9.1 including the use of newly introduced extensions such as Network Analyst among others. There will be ten labs and ten weeks of lectures and then the course will switch to student presentations and project work.

Useful Texts: Chang, Kang-tsung, 2006. Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (Third Edition).

Supplementary Texts and Material: see the Blackboard for other references and all kinds of good stuff.

Grading:

Two Tests	20%	(10% each)
Class Participation	10%	(5% in lectures, 5% in student presentations)
Labs	40%	(4% each)
Research Paper	30%	(5% Summary, 5% presentation, 20% paper)

You do not have to pass any individual part of the course in order to receive a passing grade for the whole course. All parts of the course are graded with a letter grade e.g. A+ B C- etc. For the multiple choice tests and labs letter grades are assigned as follows:

A+ 90% and over or top mark; A 85 to 89; A- 80 to 84

B+ 77 to 79; B 74 to 76; B- 70 to 73

C+ 67 to 69; C 64 to 66; C- 60 to 63

D+ 57 to 59; D 50 to 56; F less than 50

You should therefore be able to calculate your own course grade.

Prerequisites: Geog447 and Geog547 or their equivalents

Plagiarism of material in your paper will produce an automatic F for the paper. In accordance with Social Science Faculty Policy, I am required to forward the paper and your name to the Dept. Head and to the Dean of the Faculty of Social Science and they will decide on further actions if necessary. It is usually fairly easy for me to detect plagiarism using various software packages. Please, please do not do it. It is not worth potentially ruining your university career. If you are concerned about this please check with me before submitting material for evaluation.