# Maps and Map Interpretation GRG 312

Spring 2013 Unique Number 37455

# **Class Meeting Times**

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Tuesday and Thursday

#### Classroom

CLA 1.108

#### Instructor

Peter H. Dana pdana@austin.utexas.edu Office CLA 3.408

#### **Office Hours**

Tuesdays: and Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM or by appointment

# Course Description

The purpose of this course is to teach the student to read, analyze, and interpret maps. The course will examine a broad range of maps, viewing the map as a communication system with a symbology and organization operating within a cultural context. The course deals with the physical form and models of the Earth; the history of cartography, locational reference systems, map projections, and techniques for the mapping of landforms, artifacts, themes, and statistical distributions. While this course will emphasize the paper map, we will also discuss alternative map media, surveying, navigation systems, remote-sensing, computer-assisted cartography, and geographic information systems.

#### Basis of Grading

Nine Exercises (5.556% each); 50% Mid-term Examination; 25% Final Examination; 25%

#### **Requirements:**

Students are expected to attend all classes, participate in discussions, and complete all assignments. No late assignments will be accepted without prior notice and all late work will result in a 5% assignment grade reduction for each day late.

# **Intellectual Integrity**

Intellectual integrity is expected in all work. Collaboration and the use of a wide range of references in encouraged, but any plagiarism, use of un-cited materials, or uncredited project assistance will result in a "faculty disposition" of course failure.

See: (http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis\_plagiarism.php).

# UT Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty:

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please visit the Student Judicial Services Web site: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs.

# UT Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations. (http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/providing.php#SYLLABUS

# Required Reading

Course Textbook:

Kimerling, A. Jon, Aileen Buckley, P. C. Muehrcke, and J. O. Muehrcke. 2010. *Map Use: Reading and Analysis*. 6th Edition. Redlands, CA: ESRI Press. ISBN: 1589482832

Other Materials:

Students will also be required to have access during the semester to a USGS Topographic Quadrangle (ordering information will be provided in class - the UT PCL has USGS maps you can check out).

Class Schedule, Topics, and Assignments (subject to change)

Date	Topic	Assignment Due On This Date
1/15 Tu	Course Overview	
1/17 Th	Representing Geography	
1/22 Tu	Variety of Maps	EX 1 PCL
1/24 Th	Variety of Spatial Data	Kimerling Introduction
1/29 Tu	History of Maps	EX 2 Sketch Map
1/31 Th	The Shape of the Earth	Kimerling Chapter 1
2/05 Tu	Remote Sensing	EX 3 News Map
2/07 Th	Map Scale, Accuracy, and Error	Kimerling Chapter 2
2/12 Tu	Map Projections	Kimerling Chapter 3
2/14 Th	Coordinate Systems	Kimerling Chapter 4
2/19 Tu	Distance and Direction	Kimerling Chapter 11
		EX4 Center of a State
2/21 Th	Mapping Objects	Kimerling Chapter 12

2/26 Tu	Mapping the Earth	Kimerling Chapter 6
		EX 5 Text on Maps
2/28 Th	Mapping Numbers	Kimerling Chapter 9
3/05 Tu	Mapping People	Kimerling Chapter 7
		EX 6 National Boundary
3/07 Th	Mid Term Examination	
3/12-14	Spring Break	
3/19 Tu	USGS Topographic Maps	Kimerling Chapter 14
3/21 Th	Wayfinding and Surveying	Kimerling Chapter 5
3/26 Tu	Map Measurements	EX 7 Quadrangle Data Sheets
3/28 Th	Spatial Patterns and Terrain Maps	Kimerling Chapter 17
4/02 Tu	Maps and Art	EX 8 Maps in Ads
4/04 Th	Map Sources and Maintenance	Kimerling Appendix A
4/09 Tu	Computer Mapping and GIS	
4/11 Th	Maps and Power	
4/16 Tu	Counter-Mapping	EX 9 Maps in Movies
4/18 Th	Map Design	
4/23 Tu	Map Production	
4/25 Th	Mapping Time	EX 10 Map Interpretation
4/30 Tu	Future Maps	
5/02 Th	Review	
5/10 Fr	9:00 AM -12:00 PM	Check with Registrar!

#### **Exercises**

Exercises will be posted on Blackboard:

Exercise 1: PCL Map Room

Exercise 2: Sketch Map of Natural Features

Exercise 3: Newspaper Maps

Exercise 4: Center of the State

Exercise 5: Text on Maps

Exercise 6: National Boundary

Exercise 7: Quadrangle Data Sheet

Exercise 8: Maps in Ads

Exercise 9: Maps in Movies

Exercise 10: Map Interpretation

# Map Sources and Information

USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangles:

Miller BluePrint, 501 West 6th St. Austin

USGS: <a href="http://topomaps.usgs.gov">http://topomaps.usgs.gov</a> Omnimap: <a href="http://www.omnimap.com">www.omnimap.com</a>