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Office Hours: Tue, Thu 12:45–13:45 and 17:00–18:20. Thu 12:45–13:45. Other days and times by appointment.

Lectures: Tue, Thu 11:20AM–12:35PM at HT 208

Course Description:
Information technology provides new ways to explore, analyze, and visualize historical resources. It provides new insights that can help formulate new questions and provide new perspectives to historical periods and events. In this course, we will leverage the power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to add insight and gain new perspectives on historical research. The course includes readings related to various historical eras. Class sessions will include lectures, discussion and use of GIS software. The course includes a field project (related to a historical Civil War event) with students visiting, mapping and creating GIS artifacts of a local (e.g. Maryland, Virginia) site.

Course Objectives: The main objective of the colloquium is to explore the relationship between Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and historical events. This exploration is by nature interdisciplinary, bringing together geography, information technology and history. It requires students to work and learn both independently and collaborate with others. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
  - Describe fundamental cartographic concepts (projections, scale, coordinates, accuracy).
  - Identify the components of geographic data: position, attributes, spatial relationships.
  - Create, manipulate and query geospatial data.
  - Read and interpret maps using mapping tools and techniques.
  - Describe, use and analyse maps in the context of historical events.
  - Identify the implicit and explicit information conveyed by cartographic elements and their significance to historical events.
  - Describe the applications and techniques used in GIS to analyse information related to specific historical events or periods.

Textbook: A collection of chapters, papers, external sources and other relevant material will be provided electronically.

Policies: Please read the following carefully:
  - Adhering to the Academic Honesty Policy/Honor Code is a student responsibility. Deviation from the policy will not be tolerated. Discussions with classmates are permitted but deliverables must be your own individual work. This means you are free (and encouraged) to discuss assignments with other students outside of class; just don’t share answers.
  - Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments receive zero points. No exceptions. Really.
  - You are responsible for all material covered in the course including lectures, readings, discussions, guest speakers and learning exercises whether or not you are present.
  - If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining the lecture notes, additional readings and any assignment from another student and Blackboard. Except in the case of a documented illness or emergency, all assignments are to be delivered on the assigned date, even if you do not attend class.
Assignment clarification is welcome but validation (aka “pre-grading”) is inappropriate. So please refrain from asking to “look over your solutions and answers” before submission. It is unfair to the rest of the students who are not given any pre-submission help.

- In-class sessions: attendance is expected at each class meeting. While there is no attendance grade, it is in your own best interest to attend class, as your grade will almost certainly suffer indirectly if you choose not to attend.
- Save all work: You are responsible for keeping copies of all completed assignments and graded work until a final course grade is recorded. Should there be a discrepancy between the final grade and your records, you will need to provide evidence in support of a revision.
- The material in the course is, inherently, cumulative. Be aware, if you fall behind, it may be difficult to catch up. If you fall behind, ask for assistance as quickly as possible – we are here to help.

The following is a tentative list of topics and will most likely change during the semester. All announcements, reading and homework assignments, project information, schedule changes etc will be made available on Blackboard.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 History of Maps</td>
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<td>3 Map Design &amp; Map Projections</td>
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<td>4 Geodesy</td>
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<td>5 GIS</td>
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<td>6 Remote Sensing</td>
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<td>8 Data Sources, Data Entry and Surveying</td>
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Grading

Homework/Labs 50%, Mid-Term Exam 20%, Projects/Presentation 30%.

Course letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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<th>NUMERIC GRADE (%)</th>
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