

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: GEOG-217: Maps and GIS

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall 2021

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Ismael Foroughi

EMAIL: foroughii@camosun.bc.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 342D

HOURS: Mondays 4:00PM-5:00PM (appointments required in advance).

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will learn how to collect, store, manipulate, display, and analyze datasets with a location associated with them. These processes are all contained in a geographic information system (GIS). This course will provide you with a conceptual and practical introduction to maps and GIS. Students are introduced to techniques and fundamentals of spatial data and analysis. Topics include scale, map interpretation, and digital mapping. The background theory we will be learning will be applied with weekly labs and practice assignments. You can find all course material on D2L under Content. Hand in work by following the Assignments link on D2L.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe basic concepts in mapping, including geo-referencing, scale, projection and map interpretation.
2. Differentiate between different types of maps.
3. Analyze GIS data and metadata to interpret digital maps.
4. Use GIS software to solve geographic problems and produce digital maps.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

No textbook is required.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

WEEK	Theory (Monday)	Lab (Wednesday)	Practice (Monday)
08-Sep	None	Introduction to ArcGIS	None
13-Sep	Geographic Tools and Inquiry	Geographic inquiry; community mapping	Mental mapping
20-Sep	Spatial Data Concepts 1	Maps - working with spatial concepts	Spatial data concepts 1
27-Sep	Spatial Data Concepts 2	Working with topographic maps	Spatial data concepts 2
04-Oct	QUIZ I	Geocaching	None
11-Oct	Spatial Data Modelling	Working with vector and raster data models	Spatial data modelling
18-Oct	Working with Spatial and Attribute Data	Exploring data with maps - part 1	Working with spatial and attribute data
25-Oct	Making Maps	Exploring data with maps - part 2	Map making
01-Nov	QUIZ II	Exploring data with maps - part 3	None
08-Nov	Data Analysis	Data analysis 1: Query, buffer, surface analysis, interpolation	Data analysis
15-Nov	Projects, getting started	Data Analysis 2: Working with overlay	None
22-Nov	Maps and Decision Making	Quantitative spatial analysis and mapping: Working with thematic maps	Map critique
29-Nov	QUIZ III	Projects	None
06-Dec	Projects	Projects	None

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Labs/Practices	65%
Projects	20%
Quizzes	15%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Theory

Every Monday 12:30-2:20 PM we will cover the theory portion of the course along with practices. The practices are really fun to do and are due for final submission in one week from the lecture days. The material and instructions needed for practices as well as presentation files for the theory are available through D2L.

Labs

Labs comprise the majority of marks for this course and we will be using a piece of software called ArcGIS for them. I will post labs on D2L under Content. This is installed on the school computers. I have reserved the Ewing 100 computer lab for our class every Wednesday from 12:30 – 3:20 PM. This means you will always be assured access during this time period and I will be in the lab to help you finishing your lab. You can still get on other times it's just that, like a normal library, the computers can fill up as there is just one person per computer.

To access the computers off-campus you need to follow a few easy steps, which you can find here: <http://camosun.ca/services/its/computer-labs/index.html>.

Labs will always be due one week from when they are assigned, please hand-in via the Assignments link on D2L. Each lab relies on its own dataset. These datasets are located on the school computers on the S drive (s:\served\mapdata\courses\geog217\labs\). In order to access this data you must be logged on to the school computer, as described above.

If you would like to work from your personal computer at home I can give you a student license for the software. It will only run on Windows so if you have a Mac you will need to do a bit of trickery to make it run...which I can assist with. My recommendation though would be to use the school computers.

Practice

Most weeks we will have practice assignments that will be posted to D2L under Content. These will reinforce the theory we've been learning and give you a chance to try it out. These are due a week after they've been assigned and are to be handed in by following the Assignments link on D2L.

Quizzes

There will be three quizzes worth 15% of your grade. These will be taken on D2L by following the Quizzes link. They will be a mix of multiple-choice, short answer, and long-answer questions. Quizzes will be based on Theory, Labs and Practice.

Project

The capstone of this course will be an applied GIS project, I will give you some options for projects or you can come up with your own!

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising

<http://camosun.ca/advising>

Accessible Learning

<http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning>

Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.