

Syllabus for Cartographic Problems

INSTRUCTOR: Mike Siegel, Staff Cartographer

CLASS: Tuesday & Friday Third Period (11:30-12:50 p.m.) B-266 LSH

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Gain additional experience with thematic map design.
2. Better understand how people perceive color symbolization on thematic maps.
3. Continue our exploration of geographic data sources and technology related to map production.

MAP PROJECTS:

There will be four thematic mapping projects in this course.

1. You are responsible for developing four thematic maps that meet the instructor's approval.
2. The map should tell a story with an informative and aesthetically pleasing presentation.
3. Try to develop projects that challenge and expand your design skills.
4. Three projects will be page size (fill the available area of an 8.5 x 11 page). The final project will be larger and (hopefully) more complex.
5. Digital artwork will be produced using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop software.
6. Project grades will be determined by amount of subject content, sophistication of design, and effectiveness of technical execution.
7. Each stage of a map has a deadline (see production schedule). Your grade will be lowered for missed deadlines.

PROJECT PARAMETERS:

1. large; medium; small scale.
2. historical; current; academic/research
3. the parameters for the fourth map are up to you

These broad parameters are meant to encourage variety in the cartographic design of your projects.

In your critique, identify the parameter from groups 1 & 2 that the project fulfills.

WEBPAGE

You are required to create and maintain a webpage to showcase your cartography projects. The webpage should be used to show the development of your map design, provide links to reference material, and any other information (e.g. critique) that will help me appreciate and evaluate your efforts in this class.

[Computer Lab \(B266\) Schedule](#)

Adobe Illustrator is available in all the RUCS hubs. Be aware that moving a project between older and newer versions of Illustrator may cause some problems.

Attendance and participation are class requirements that affect your grade. Please try to let me know in advance if you will be missing a class or a deadline (email or phone).

Make sure I have your current phone number and email address.

RU weather line: 932:7799 (recorded message on official closing or late opening). School closings are posted on the main Rutgers webpage