

GEO 327G/386G: GIS & GPS Applications in Earth Sciences Lab Syllabus—Spring 2014

Lab room: JGB 2.312

Lab time: Tuesday 2:00–4:00 P.M.

Lab instructor: Binyan Yan – byan@utexas.edu

Office: JGB 5.330

Office Hours: Monday 3:00-4:00, Friday 1:00-2:00 in JGB 2.312

(additional times may also be scheduled via email)

GIS is an amazing tool and I look forward to helping you learn how to use it. We will have a lot of fun in this lab, and we will also work a lot of hard hours. Please don't hesitate to ask for my help at any time.

Attendance

Weekly attendance is MANDATORY. We will start each new lab assignment as a class so everyone gets off to a good start. It will pay off if you show up each week on time.

Weekly Work Time

Taking this course will require a SIGNIFICANT time investment on your part. Time required for each assignment will vary, but you will likely spend substantial time on your lab assignments beyond the two hours devoted to lab each week, perhaps as much as 6-8 hours more. If you cannot find the necessary time, you will likely neither perform well nor enjoy the course, and you should consider taking the course during a lighter semester. Please take full advantage of my office hours and arrange for additional office hours if necessary. I am more than happy to work with you outside of class. To take good advantage of office hours, I suggest you to send emails to me in advance describing briefly the questions you have or listing the topics you would like to focus on. This will get both of us well prepared before the office hours.

Grading

Lab is worth 35% of your overall grade in this course. This 35% will be divided among week and two-week long assignments. Also, the skills you will need to develop a successful class project (worth 20% of the overall course grade) will be developed in lab. (See the course website at: <http://www.geo.utexas.edu/courses/371c/projects.htm> for more information on the class project.)

Lab assignments will be due at the beginning of the lab period of the next week for one-week long assignments. For two-week long assignments, the deadline is the beginning of a new lab two weeks later. Assignments are accepted in printed versions. I will collect assignments at the beginning of the lab on the due dates. At other times, you can drop your assignments in the envelope outside my office and send me an email.

For each day (up to 5 days) that an assignment is late, you will lose 10% of the attainable score. Beyond 5 days you can still turn in the assignment with a penalty of 50% of the original attainable score.

Academic Dishonesty

This shouldn't have to be mentioned for an upper division/graduate course, but cheating in ANY FORM will not be tolerated. It is okay to consult your classmates for help/clarification when

working on lab assignments, but YOU must do the work and turn in YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL RESULTS. Unacceptable actions include but are not limited to:

- 1) Copying or paraphrasing an answer developed by another student (current or former)
- 2) Modifying graphics developed by another student (current or former) and turning it in as your own work