



## Campus Mapping & Project Management

GEOS 5300 (Topics) – Spring 2015

**Class Meetings: Tuesday/Thursday 10:35am-12:35pm**

**412 Ross Hall (GEL)**



**Instructor:** Andrew Joyner, Ph.D.  
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**Office hours:** Open door policy or by appointment

### 1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to GIS project management through the development of a campus-wide GIS database and mapping platform. The group project will consume a large part of the semester and Tuesday will typically be dedicated to a “business meeting” where we will discuss weekly progress made on the project. The project will present a real-world scenario where the class will be asked to use GIS, mapping, modeling, photogrammetry, and database skills to develop the first GIS database for the ETSU campus.

Additionally, local and regional GIS managers and specialists will come to the class to discuss experiences that they have had with their own past and current GIS projects. Most presenters will also have a Q&A time to go over any questions you have about projects and employment in the field.

#### A. Course Format

The success of this course will depend on how much time and effort you put into it. There will be no traditional lectures or labs, but instead the class will alternate between business meetings, project management discussions (data standards, database construction, timelines, workflows, etc.), and special guest speakers. Business meetings will be led by a different student each week and that student will be expected to send out a meeting agenda the day before the meeting, lead the meeting agenda, take meeting notes, and send a copy of the meeting notes out to the class within 24 hours after the business meeting. Class discussion on specific campus mapping and/or project management topics will be led by the instructor and related readings will help to guide these discussions. Students will need to, as a group, divide up project tasks, set weekly goals, create a timeline for successful project completion, constantly adapt the timeline to reflect issues that arise, and be personally accountable and responsible for their specific tasks. Deadlines for individual tasks will be set based on the timeline and meeting these deadlines will be part of your grade.

#### B. Course Requirements

Students will be evaluated according to the following:

##### **Business Meetings:**

Students will rotate leading the meeting each week and the weekly leader will be graded on their meeting agenda, how they lead the meeting, and their meeting notes. Promptness in sending out the meeting agenda and notes will also be a graded component.

**Individual Tasks Completion:**

Each individual will be assessed based on how they contributed to the group project based on their completion of individual tasks in a timely manner.

**Group Project Completion:**

The class will be evaluated, collectively, based on the entire (or partial) completion of the group project.

**Group Project Peer Evaluation:**

Your contribution to the group project will be evaluated by your peers and will contribute to your final individual grade.

**Class Discussion/Participation**

You are expected to participate in all class discussion. The better and more we communicate, then the better the project outcomes will be.

**Discussion/Questions for Guest Speakers**

You will have at least 2 questions prepared for each guest speaker based on their area(s) of expertise or job-related questions you wish to ask.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING	
Leading a Business Meeting	50 points
Individual Project Tasks	100 points
Group Project Completion	100 points
Discussion/Participation	30 points
Group Project Peer Evaluation	20 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300 points</b>

**C. Readings**

Students are expected to complete all required readings that are assigned occasionally for group discussion. Students are also expected to examine and extract information from current University GIS systems, technical reports, journal articles, and a multitude of GIS- and database server-related resources.

**D. Grading Policy**

Grading will follow a generalized graduate school grading scale with no +/- grades. Deadlines for individual tasks are strictly enforced and meeting self-imposed deadlines for the group project will lead to higher group-related grades. There is no extra credit, make-up, or late assignment policy. Active discussion and participation will be factored into your final grade as well.

Scale	Point Equivalent	Grade
90 - 100	270 - 300	A
80 - 89	240 - 269	B
70 - 79	210 - 239	C
60-69	180 - 209	D
< 60	< 180	F

## E. Class Policies

The following policies guide this course

- Silence cell phones while in the class room.
- Respect your classmates and instructor by being on-time and prepared for class.
- Always ask questions!
- Don't miss class!

## 2. COURSE SUPPORT

If you have a disability that may impact your work in this class and may require accommodations, please inform the instructor and contact Disability Services through the following webpage:

<http://www.etsu.edu/students/disable/>

## 3. ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY

As a student at East Tennessee State University, you have acknowledged the standards that have been defined in the Student Code of Conduct, and thus you have agreed to adhere to its tenets.

Students are responsible for submitting work that reflects their individual performance. Misrepresentation of your own work either through plagiarism, collusion, or data distortion is a serious breach of the code of student conduct. If you have any questions on what constitutes plagiarism, review it in the [ETSU Student Handbook](#).

#### 4. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	Dates	TOPICS & READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Jan 20/22	Overview of Class, Project Explanation, and Resources	ID/Research other Campus GIS sites
2	Jan 27/29	Project Discussion (both days) - Present campus GIS examples, selecting project components, etc.	Develop Timeline & Individual Tasks
3	Feb 3/5	Using the Drone, Individual Tasks, Expectations, & Timeline	Weekly Tasks; Develop Methods
4	Feb 10/12	Business Meeting 1; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Selena
5	Feb 17/19	Business Meeting 2; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Michelle
6	Feb 24/26	Business Meeting 3; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Kevin
7	Mar 3/5	Business Meeting 4; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Amy
8	Mar 10/12	Spring Break	
9	Mar 17/19	Business Meeting 5; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Jake
10	Mar 24/26	Business Meeting 6; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Stacey
11	Mar 31/Apr 2	Business Meeting 7; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Selena
12	Apr 7/9	Business Meeting 8; Appalachian Student Research Forum	Weekly Tasks; BM: Michelle
13	Apr 14/16	Business Meeting 9; Guest Speaker	Weekly Tasks; BM: Kevin
14	Apr 21/23	AAG Conference in Chicago; No Class	
15	Apr 28/30	Final Business Meeting; Project Review/Presentation	Weekly Tasks; BM: Amy
16	May 2-7	Exam Week - "Stakeholder" Meeting Presentation	<b>Group Project Due</b>

*The course schedule, readings, guest speakers, and procedures described in the syllabus are subject to change. Students will be informed of any such changes via the D2L course site and/or via email.*