Syllabus
Geography 1010 – Introduction to Geographic Data
Spring 2015

Instructor: Seth Bishop
Contact Information: seth.bishop@utah.edu, OSH 334
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30 – 4:30pm and by appointment.
Prerequisite: None
Required Text: Canvas readings only
Course Web Page: https://utah.instructure.com/

Course Description
This one-credit, online course is designed to provide an introduction to types of geographic data, methods of presentation, and interpretation. It is very common in Geography and other fields to present data graphically to best communicate trends, anomalies, variability, etc. Appreciation and understanding of these types of presentations requires training, which is often overlooked. As you progress through the Geography curriculum you will encounter graphical presentations of data. The main purpose of this course is to introduce you to a variety of geographical data and provide you the background and knowledge to understand and create these types of data presentations.

Course Objectives
By the end of this course the student will:
• Be proficient with basic statistics and Excel spreadsheet functions
• Be able to interpret scientific graphs and figures
• Be able to create graphs
• Have an idea of the breadth of geography as a discipline and be more familiar with research conducted in the University of Utah Department of Geography

Credit Hours
GEOG 1010 is a one credit hour course. University policy is that for each hour of credit, a student is expected to spend 3 hours of combined classroom and homework effort. Since this is an online class, you will spend that time reading course materials and completing course assignments.
Assignments and Grading
Assignment due dates are listed in the course schedule below, and posted in Canvas under the Assignments tab.

Syllabus Quiz
Thoroughly read the syllabus and take the quiz to evaluate your understanding of course policies, expected time commitment, module due dates, how to contact the instructor, etc.

Module Assignments / Quizzes
For each module there will be an assignment or quiz for you to complete. Modules include instructions as to what needs to be submitted and how to complete the submission. Please read all the instructions carefully and think through the assignment. These are not cooking recipes; you may need to determine “what next.” This is part of the learning experience.

If uploading a document, save it in one of the following formats (.doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx, .pdf). Be certain to put your name and module number on all uploaded assignments.

Modules use Microsoft Excel 2010 for working with and displaying data. Microsoft Office 2010 is available on many computer workstations across campus. Office 2010 is also available for FREE download to all U of U students (http://software.utah.edu/) for their personally owned computer.

Note! Test the assignment submission you plan to upload by opening the file BEFORE you upload it. Defective files and subsequently resubmitted work will be treated as late.

There are two deadlines posted for each assignment. One is considered “on-time” and will be evaluated for full-credit. The other is considered a “late” deadline and 50% of the assignments value will be deducted from the score you receive.

Note! No Work Will Be Accepted Past The “Late” Deadline

Final Project
Students will utilize the knowledge gained in this course to conduct an analysis of graphs and tables from a peer reviewed journal article. Further directions will be provided on Canvas.

Peer Review
Each student will conduct a peer evaluation of their classmates’ final projects. Further directions will be provided on Canvas.

Assignment Percentage Points

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<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
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<td>Module Assignments/Quizzes</td>
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<td>Final Project</td>
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Grade Scale
Letter grades will be assigned based on the following.

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**Course Schedule**

**Module 1 – Quiz: Introduction to Geographic Data and Using Excel**
In this module you will be introduced to the course, geographic data, tools for completing course assignments, and how to enter data in Excel and use basic manipulations and formulae.
DUE: Friday, 23 January 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 25 January 11:59PM (late)

**Module 2 – Assignment: Line Graphs, Scatter Graphs, Bar graphs and Histograms**
In this module you will learn how to interpret and create Line Graphs, Scatter Graphs Bar Graphs and Histograms.
DUE: Friday, 30 January 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 1 February 11:59PM (late)

**Module 3 – Quiz: Descriptive Statistics I**
In this module you will learn Central Tendency including Mean, Median, and Mode.
DUE: Friday, 6 February 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 8 February 11:59PM (late)

**Module 4 – Assignment: Descriptive Statistics II**
In this module you will learn Percentiles and Quartiles.
DUE: Friday, 20 February 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 22 February 11:59PM (late)

**Module 5 – Quiz: Descriptive Statistics III**
In this module you will learn Range, Standard Deviation and Variance.
DUE: Friday, 27 February 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 1 March 11:59PM (late)

**Module 6 – Quiz: Scatter Plots with Regressions**
In this module you will interpret and create scatter and line graphs with multiple variables, and also how to interpret and apply regressions to those graphs.
DUE: Friday, 6 March 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 8 March 11:59PM (late)

**Module 7 – Assignment: Graph and Table Interpretation and Generation I**
In this module you will look at, interpret and create data appropriate graphs and learn how to interpret and create tables of data and learn when to use tables instead of graphs.
DUE: Friday, 13 March 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 15 March 11:59PM (late)

**Spring Break: Sunday, 15 March to Sunday, 22 March**

**Module 8 – Quiz: Graph Interpretation and Generation II**
Looking at, interpreting and creating data appropriate graphs.
DUE: Friday, 27 March 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 29 March 11:59PM (late)

**Module 9 – Quiz: Graph Interpretation and Generation III**
Looking at, interpreting and creating data appropriate graphs.
DUE: Friday, 3 April 11:59PM (on time); Sunday, 5 April 11:59PM (late)
Final Project
Graph interpretation and critique of geographic literature.

Note: There is no late deadline for the Final Project. The Final Project must be turned in on or before the deadline to receive credit.
DUE: Friday, 17 April 11:59pm

Peer Review of Final Projects
Student projects available for peer review by Sunday, 19 April
DUE: Friday, 24 April by 11:59pm

Communication and Guidelines
Announcements
The Announcements feature in Canvas will be used for “broadcast” messages intended for everyone enrolled in the course. Students should check for new announcements on a regular basis when they log in to Canvas.

Email
Please use Canvas email for communication. My university email account may be used if Canvas is down. Please be sure to check Canvas frequently since this is the primary means of direct communication between faculty and students. Students should check for new announcements and emails on a regular basis and when they log in to Canvas.

Response from instructor
Please allow 24 hours for a response from the instructor.

Personal appointment
Just because this is an online course does not mean I’m unavailable for in-person communication. If you still have questions or need clarification after reviewing the online instructions and resources and / or feel the need to meet in-person, please do not hesitate to contact me to arrange an appointment.

Online Guidelines
There are unique responsibilities that come with taking an online course. You will not be reminded to submit your work. You are responsible for keeping track of deadlines and getting your work submitted in a timely fashion. Assignments will be posted ahead of time, some students find it easier to work ahead and you are welcome (and encouraged) to do so!

Electronic or Equipment Failure
It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and other equipment needed to participate in online forums in a manner that enhances your experience. Because you will have at least one week to complete each assignment, equipment failures will not be an acceptable excuse for late or missing assignments.
**Classroom Equivalency**

Online communications, including e-mail, discussion threads, and chat rooms are equivalent to the classroom and are subject to the Student Code. Specifically:

- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in a discussion thread.
- Off-color language is never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is not acceptable.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points (!!!!!) and question marks (?????).
- Online communications, including e-mail in Canvas, are University property and subject to GRAMA regulations. Privacy regarding Canvas communications must not be assumed unless mutually agreed upon in advance.

As with assignments, instructors are required to respond to e-mails in a “reasonable” amount of time. Use the Canvas e-mail address as the preferred means of communication. Note that content may be shared with the class when there are valid teaching/learning reasons for doing so and mutual privacy agreements for the communications have not been previously made.

**Academic Misconduct Statement**

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties may include failure of an assignment, the entire course, and/or the filing of formal charges with appropriate university authorities. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, and plagiarism:

- Cheating involves the unauthorized possession or use of information in an academic exercise, including unauthorized communication with another person during an exercise such as an examination.
- Misrepresenting one’s work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one’s own work or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of all instructors.
- Plagiarism means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person’s work in one’s own work offered for academic consideration or public presentation.

**Disability Accommodation**

_The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services._