

IS645

GIS – Course Syllabus

Instructor: James Wolfe

Office: Gullickson Hall 116
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm
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Term: Spring 2006
Class: Gullickson Hall 206A, Tuesday 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Text: Getting Started with Geographic Information Systems 4th Edition
By Keith C. Clarke

Objectives of this course:

The objectives of this course are:

- To provide an overview of the field of GIS, related technologies, and their usage
- To study the basic steps in designing, implementing, using, and maintaining a GIS. The steps will include: data collection and validation, basic cartography and digital mapping, database development, integration of maps and databases, and analysis
- To provide a managerial "hands-on" feel of implementing a GIS using a commercial GIS package
- To study the resources required for implementing a GIS, and the strategic implications of using a GIS for an organization

Text book:

Required:

[Getting Started with Geographic Information Systems](#), *Fourth Edition*, by [Keith C. Clarke](#), [Prentice Hall](#), 2003, ISBN: 0-13-046027-3.

Class lecture and laboratory format:

Most of the class period will be spent on hands-on GIS project development. The student will be expected to read assigned chapter, complete quizzes and other assignments outside of class.

Acquiring class materials electronically and communication:

Most communication will be via email and it is recommended that students monitor their accounts several times a day. Students can also reach me by phone (direct) or through the Center secretary (Ms. Cammy Holley). If you are unable to make it to a class, it is better that you let the instructor know in advance, so arrangements can be made for acquiring/discussing class materials.

Class quizzes, ESRI Virtual Campus, Projects, and class participation (See course schedule below):

Quizzes: There will be quizzes given for each chapter of the book. These quizzes will be taken over the web at: http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_clarke_gsgis_4

ESRI Virtual Campus work: ESRI has a Virtual Campus with various courses. Depending on the level of familiarity with the ESRI software package, access to various levels of courses will be made available.

Class Project: A final project presentation will be held during the last class. A student has to be present for the final project presentation in order to receive a grade.

Class participation: Students are expected to:

- Arrive in class on or before time.
- Participate in class discussions and project.
- Not disrupt the class with cell phones, beepers, timers, or other noises or behaviors (except emergencies)
- Attend all classes, except for emergencies.

Consistent lack of participation on any of the above will result in penalization. All quizzes and participation in class project are required components of this course and must be satisfactorily completed to pass this course.

Grade determination:

30 percent for the quizzes

50 percent for the class project

20 percent for class participation and attendance

The instructor reserves the right to change these values, depending upon class performance and/or extenuating circumstances.