



**COURSE OUTLINE
OUR DIGITAL EARTH**

Office Hours: THURSDAYS 1:00pm – 2:00pm and by appointment

Office Location: DTB A237

Contact: chrisbone@uvic.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to how the world of geospatial data and technologies influences our daily lives and shapes society and the world around us. Students learn how to collect and utilize location-based data, how to develop web maps and mobile mapping apps, how to create technologies to respond to environmental disasters and humanitarian crises, and how to think spatially in order to improve our understanding of our planet. Lectures involve a lively mix of presentations and group interaction, as well as several opportunities to crowdsource data collection in order to solve geospatial problems. Lectures also provide students with training in how to use various mapping technologies in order to collect, map, analyze, and communicate data in power ways. By the end of this course, students will be empowered to create and share their maps and stories about what they have learned about our digital Earth!

KEY THEMES: location-based data, geospatial technologies, web mapping, spatial thinking and problem solving

REQUIRED TEXTS

Our Digital Earth. Provided by Top Hat (details will be given in first lecture)

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Define appropriate modes of spatial thinking needed for addressing geographical questions.
- Collect and analyze geographic data to characterize spatial patterns of observations and spatial relationships between variables.
- Develop mobile app to facilitate the collection of geospatial data.
- Create web mapping applications to display spatial patterns and communicate information.
- Utilize technology theory to develop a geospatial tool to help with responding to an environmental disaster or humanitarian crisis.
- Understand issues of accessibility, privacy, and security with regards to geospatial data and technologies.

EVALUATION

Assignments (4)	= 55%*
Readings	= 10%
In-class Questions	= 10%
Midterm Exam	= 10%
Final Exam	= 15%

**Assignments are not equally weighted*

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+ A A-	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ B B-	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ C	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: <http://geog.uvic.ca>
- Undergraduate Advisor: Dr. Phil Wakefield – geogadvisor@uvic.ca

COURSESPACES

Please visit your CourseSpaces site to access the website for Geog 100: Our Digital Earth

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. Assignments will not be accepted after 5 days past the due date.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is not permitted. For more information about what constitutes plagiarism, please visit:

<http://www.uvic.ca/learningandteaching/students/resources/expectations/>

Policy on Academic Integrity: <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-01/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html>

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations <http://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

WEEK	DATE	
1	Sept. 6	Welcome to Our Digital Earth
2	Sept. 10 & 13	Spatial Literacy
3	Sept. 17 & 20	Spatial Patterns and Scales
4	Sept. 24 & 27	Geospatial Data
5	Oct. 1 & 4	Geospatial Technologies
6	Oct. 8 & 11	Thanksgiving and Learning how to Make Apps
7	Oct. 15 & 18	Making Maps & Midterm
8	Oct. 22 & 25	Spatial Analytics
9	Oct. 29 & Nov. 1	Citizen Science
10	Nov. 5 & 8	Digital Humanitarianism
11	Nov. 12 & 15	Reading Break
12	Nov. 19 - 22	Privacy and Security on the Geoweb
13	Nov. 26 - 29	The Future of Our Digital Earth
14	Dec. 3	Course Review

Assignment Schedule

Assignment 1: Analyzing Patterns with Geospatial Data

Due Friday, September 21st at 11:59pm

Assignment 2: Mapping Your Story

Due Friday, October 12th at 11:59pm

Assignment 3: Developing an App for Collecting Location-based Data

Due Friday, November 1st at 11:59pm

Assignment 4: Developing an Emergency Response Tool

Due Friday, November 30th at 11:59pm