Introduction to ArcGIS 10.0
Geography 119A, Spring 2011 - Online

Class Time: Monday, February 28- Friday, April 8, “Paced” class – (5 wks.) (Spring Break, no assignments 3/14-3/18)
Location: Online
Office hour: Online – Tuesday 7:00-8:00 PM
Instructor: Chris Lewis Contact: Email Address: cclewis@csuchico.edu
Subject line of all emails to instructor: GEOG 119B

Course Description
Geography 119B is entirely web-based. There are no meetings in a classroom. There are no set times when students log on to WebCT Vista. Students will use online tutorials (provided for free) or instructor-developed activities. There is no textbook. You will be referred to articles, documentation and other materials available online or provided with the desktop software. An Integral part of this course is the Esri Virtual Campus, which consists of self-paced, web-based GIS instruction modules, using Esri ArcGIS version 10 software.

Esri’s ArcGIS software is used by many federal, state and local agencies, as well as educational institutions, private industries and businesses, throughout the world. This course provides an of the software capabilities and functionality, such as how to query a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database, manipulate tabular data, edit spatial and attribute data, and present data clearly and efficiently using maps and charts. Participants learn how to use Esri’s ArcGIS software in the context of tutorials and other assignments.

Each student may receive a free one-year student edition of ArcGIS 10 software. If you were enrolled in Geog. 119A, this semester and already picked up your copy, you do not need to pick up again, as the license is good for one year. If you did not pick up a copy yet, please pick up at the CSU, Chico Geography Department – Butte 507, ASAP, this week.

Alternative: The Virtual campus code also comes with a free 60-day evaluation version of the software that may be downloaded or ordered. You may want to use that first, then start your 1 year version after the 60-day evaluation version runs out. I leave that up to you, but in any case you will need to obtain and install the software the first week of classes in order to complete the first week’s assignment. Note: ArcGIS does not run on Apple Computers.

Prerequisites
Familiarity with a “windows” type computer environment & file maintenance. This is a minimal prerequisite. If you have only been using an Apple computer, it is recommended that you do not take the course until you are comfortable working in a Window’s environment. Students must have access to a computer. If you have access to the CSU, Chico campus, the software is loaded in only one lab – Butte 501. The hours are posted on our class website. For more information on system requirements go to Esri’s ArcGIS Resource Center: http://resources.arcgis.com/content/arcgisdesktop/10.0/arcgis-desktop-system-requirements. Note: Successful completion of this course is required before continuing on to Geography 119C – Grade of “C” or better. If you received a grade lower than a solid “B” in Geog. 119A, expect to spend more time in Geog. 119B. The best and probably only way to become proficient in ArcGIS software is Practice, Practice, Practice. An attitude of curiosity and an enjoyment of problem solving are also important as using GIS for analysis requires both.

Course objectives: After completing this course students will:
- understand what GIS is
- understand basic GIS concepts
- be able to symbolize and label maps
- be able to create and edit spatial data
- be able to perform a spatial and attribute query
• know how to change data from one projection to another
• be able to use ArcGIS’s presentation tools to create maps with associated map elements

**Required Text, Materials:** There is no required textbook for this class. You will likely need a travel drive, for data, especially if you are working in the Butte 501 GIS lab. Also, you may need ear buds of headphones for modules/webinars that have audio, unless you are working from home.

**Assignments**

• GIS assignments build upon each other, so it is important to be keep up on your assignments.
• Late homework is automatically reduced by 20%, (including online quiz scores). No homework or quizzes can be made up more than one week past the due date.
• Practice is the **only** way that you will really learn GIS, so in between classes **explore/use the software**.

Geography 119B students are advised to start and complete their required work early. All material in this class is accessed via the Internet. Occasional problems with Internet access are to be expected (especially on weekends and evenings). Computer problems are normal. Make sure you have alternate access to the Internet (a second computer, public library, etc.). Waiting until the last minute to access required course material may result in problems turning in required work. **Students are responsible for turning in all course assignments on time.**

**Grading**

Esri Training Modules: 5,6,7 (grade based on exam scores) and Geocoding (combo Esri & instructor) , Intro to Spatial Analyst (Esri & Instructor) 65%
Wetlands Activity 20%
“Final” Exam (50 minutes - timed) online 15%

**Academic Honesty**

Students are required to do their own work. Using work done by another student is cheating. If you include material from a source not cited in your class paper, that is plagiarism. Both cheating and plagiarism are violations of University Policy. Student violations of University Policy will result in disciplinary action. For more information on academic honesty, see the [Student Judicial Affairs](http://www.collegeboard.com/article/0,3868,2-10-0-10314,00.html) section of the University Catalog. Review the detailed explanation of plagiarism found at this site: [http://www.collegeboard.com/article/0,3868,2-10-0-10314,00.html](http://www.collegeboard.com/article/0,3868,2-10-0-10314,00.html). Please use in-text citations to give credit to your sources. Do not just cut and paste from websites and consider that your own.

**Disability Support Services**

If you have a documented disability that may require reasonable accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. DSS is located in the Student Services building across from Merriam Library. The DSS phone number is 530-898-5959 or FAX 530-898-4411. Visit the DSS website at [http://www.csuchico.edu/dss](http://www.csuchico.edu/dss).

An Incomplete given for serious and compelling reasons only, at the discretion of the instructor. **IMPORTANT:** No Drops or Adds allowed after the Census date, February 18. This applies to late start classes, such as Geography 119B and 119C.