Course Format and Credit: 3 hr. Lecture, 3 hr. Credit

Prerequisites: 463W Instructor consent: and Geog 350 or Geog 462

Instructor: Dr. Gregory Elmes, 349 Brooks Hall 304-293-4685
e-mail: greg dot elmes at mail dot wvu dot edu

Schedule: Tuesday 11:00 to 12:15 p.m., Thursday 11:00 to 12:15 p.m.
Location: Room 420 Brooks Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. or by appointment; 349 Brooks Hall


Grading: (463)

60% of the grade will be comprised of two exams based on lectures, the text, and assigned readings.
40% will be comprised of five mapping labs to further the understanding of the uses of GIS and spatial data analysis related to crime and law enforcement.

Writing Section: Students may register for GEOG 463 (W) as a writing-intensive course that meets the WVU W-course requirement for graduation, or as a non-writing-intensive course. The content learning objectives for all students are the same; however, the means of evaluation will differ. Students must follow the syllabus for the course in which they are registered and may not switch from W-course option to non-W option, or vice versa, after the first week.

Grading (463W Writing Section):

60% of the grade will be comprised of completion of five papers based on the text, and assigned readings.
40% will be comprised of five mapping labs to further the understanding of the uses of GIS and spatial data analysis related to crime and law enforcement.

Grade Assignment: 100 – 90 A
89 – 80 B
79 – 70 C
69 – 60 D
59 – 0 F

Grading Policy: Unexcused late assignments will be given zero points.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is required and will be registered. Consistent with WVU guidelines, students absent because of authorized University activities will have the opportunity to make up any missed assignments. Make-up assignments for absences due to any other reason will be at the discretion of the instructor.
Course Objectives: The objectives of Crime Geography: Concepts, Mapping and Analysis are to study crime and law enforcement from a geographical perspective and investigate the use of geographic information systems and related technology for crime reporting, mapping, and analysis. Practical assignments will supplement the materials covered in the lecture part of the course.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course:
Students will be able to:
1) Apply knowledge of space, place, region, movement, and scale to explain the significance of the geographical perspective on crime;
2) Demonstrate knowledge of spatial theories of crime in the context of environmental criminology and routine activities;
3) Geocode data collected by typical law enforcement and related agencies;
4) Create well designed, communicative maps of crime data from various sources; e.g. local, state, and federal using contemporary computer / GIS software;
5) Interpret information from raw data through statistical and map analysis, and draw inferences about possible causes and effects;
6) Analyze crime patterns using the property of spatial dependence and measurement of autocorrelation;
7) Identify crime hotspots;
8) Map and analyze crime over time;
9) Increase their proficiency in graphical, oral and written communications.

Social Justice Statement: “West Virginia University is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and nondiscrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class. Please advise me and make appropriate arrangement with Disability Services (293-6700).”

West Virginia University Academic Integrity Statement: The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, I will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of this course. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the Student Conduct Code at http://www.arc.wvu.edu/admissions/integrity.html. Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see me before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.

ADDITIONAL READINGS: Readings to complement lectures, lab assignments and class discussions are posted to E-campus.
Anselin, Luc. 2004a. GeoDa 0.9.5-I Release Notes. Spatial Analysis Laboratory and Center for Spatially Integrated Social Sciences (CSISS), Department of Agriculture and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.


Clarke Ronald V. and Eck John E. 2005 Crime Analysis for Problem Solvers in 60 Small Steps, U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Washington DC. e-Campus; On-line


Harries, Keith 1999 Mapping Crime, National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington DC; e-Campus; on-line


O'Sullivan, D. 2004 Too much of the wrong kind of data: Implications for the practice of micro-scale spatial modeling. Chapter 5 in Goodchild and Janelle (eds.) Spatially Integrated Social Science, OUP, Oxford. e-Campus


Software:

ArcInfo GIS 10.1: Desktop and workstation Geographic Information System (GIS) software produced by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI).

A one-year student version is available free from the WVGIS Technical Center.

CrimeStat III: Crime analysis and modeling software can be freely downloaded from the following website: http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/CRIMESTAT

GeoDa: Exploratory spatial data analysis software can be freely downloaded from the following website: http://geodacenter.asu.edu/
## Writing Assignments (Geog463W):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Minimum Length of Text</th>
<th>First Draft Due Date and Return</th>
<th>Final Draft Due Date</th>
<th>% of Course Grade</th>
<th>Writing Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Development and Uses of Crime Mapping</td>
<td>3 pages</td>
<td>Monday, Jan. 17; Friday, Jan 21</td>
<td>Friday, Jan 28</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Ability to comprehend and summarize basic information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Geocoding</td>
<td>3 pages</td>
<td>Monday, Feb. 7; Friday, Feb 11</td>
<td>Friday, Feb 18</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Explaining methods and techniques.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Crime and Space: Environmental Criminology.</td>
<td>5 pages</td>
<td>Monday, Feb 28; Friday, Mar 4</td>
<td>Friday, Mar 11</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Comprehension and ability to communicate alternative theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Hot Spot analysis of three different crime types.</td>
<td>3 pages</td>
<td>Monday, Mar 21; Friday, Mar 25</td>
<td>Friday, Apr 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Review of a case study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Crime on campus: the special considerations of policing crime at a university.</td>
<td>7 pages</td>
<td>Monday, Apr 11; Friday, Apr 15</td>
<td>Friday, Apr 22</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Synthesis of diverse information into a narrative.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 21 pages total                                                       |                        |                                 | 60%                  |                  |                                                    |

Each writing assignment will be based on the lecture readings, including both the text and the outside readings. For each assignment a set of specific instructions, and questions to be addressed, will be provided to guide the writer. On some assignments the writer will be asked to find additional information from published research papers, found using GEOREF and Electronic Journals on the WVU Library web site, and other approved resources on the Web. The minimum length of text stated above is for prose, and will not include any title pages, reference lists, or any appropriate illustrations.
GEOG 463W has been designated as a "W" writing course and thus fulfills one requirement of WVU's General Education Curriculum (GEC). This course has a substantial writing component in the form of five written assignments, and the final course grade will be determined in large part by your writing ability. WVU recognizes the need for students to have a wide range of knowledge and experience to complement their chosen field of study, including the skills to communicate effectively and reason clearly. The writing component of this course is designed to meet these goals. To this end, each of the writing assignments will first be submitted in draft form. Papers will be edited for geographical content, writing style, clarity, logic, and grammar. Papers will be returned exactly one week before the Final Draft is due. The student will submit the Final Draft addressing all of the comments, changes, corrections, and suggestions indicated on the First Draft.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Include a title page, presenting the title of your report, your name, date, and the name and number of the course. Begin the text with an introduction (generally one paragraph) that introduces the main topic of your paper to the reader, but don’t just restate the instructions for the assignment. End with a conclusion that summarizes your major points.

2. Text is to be typed, spell-checked, and proof-read. Use one inch borders all around the page and 12-point type. Use an easy to read font, such as Times New Roman or Arial. Double space the text and number the pages. Following this format, the text should be approximately 250-300 words per page.

3. Late papers are docked 10% per day (see Late Work Policy, page 1). Think of this as submitting a report to your boss someday.

4. Do your own work. Do not copy; do not plagiarize. Your work will be submitted to Turnitin. Learn to paraphrase when reporting previously published information. Direct quotes should be placed in quotation marks and correctly referenced.

5. Use the MLA format for citations and references.
During the semester there will be five writing assignments that involve understanding and explaining spatial aspects of crime. Specific criteria for evaluating written work are as follows, and all papers will be evaluated according to these criteria:

**A GRADE**: This is an outstanding paper which reflects a perceptive and thoughtful response to the assignment. It is well organized with an excellent development and organization of the ideas, and reflects the writer's command of an appropriate writing style that shows effective communication on the basis of geographic principles and the analysis of crime. The paper is written in the active case and is original, and the writer is clearly in control of the standard conventions of American prose and of scientific communication. There are no significant omissions, errors of fact, or misinterpretations of data, or results.

**B GRADE**: This is a very good paper that fulfills the assignment and shows evidence of clear thought and good planning. It is well organized with good supporting details. The writing is fluent, and there are only minor errors in the mechanics of writing which do not interfere with reading the paper. There may be some minor omissions, errors of fact, or misinterpretations of data, or results.

**C GRADE**: This is a satisfactory paper which fulfills the assignment and is adequately developed. The writing is clear and coherent with relatively few errors in usage and mechanics (syntax and grammar), but the writer fails to demonstrate any particular strength of expression of spatial principles which would distinguish an above-average paper. There are some omissions, errors of fact, or misinterpretations of data, or results.

**D GRADE**: This is a below-average paper which does not completely fulfill the assignment and exhibits major problems in writing and expression of fundamental ideas and concepts related to crime mapping and analysis. Or it may address the assignment poorly, at best. It may have difficulty with the presentation of ideas (e.g., lack of a clear thesis, weak organization, poor development of ideas, awkward style, or inappropriate diction), poor use of scientific idiom (appropriate language and terms for the topic), or be marred by enough errors in the mechanics of writing (syntax and grammar) to seriously distract the reader. There are several omissions, errors of fact, or misinterpretations of data, or results.

**F GRADE**: This is a paper that relates to the topic, but is so poorly presented that it fails to fulfill the assignment. It fails to present its basic ideas, either because of poor organization and lack of clarity or because the writing reflects a lack of control over the basic conventions of standard American usage. Such a paper may have sentence problems, poor use of scientific idiom (appropriate language and terms for the topic), and errors in the mechanics of writing. There are many omissions, errors of fact, or misinterpretations of data, or results.