Fall 2017

PUBH 7090A - A Spatial Analysis and Health

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Georgia Southern University
Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health
PUBH 7090-A Spatial Analysis and Health

Fall 2017

Instructor: Jeff Jones, PhD.
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Phone: (912) 478-7422
E-mail Address: jajones@georgiasouthern.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am-12:30pm
Also by appointment at other times
Class Meets: Tuesdays, 5pm–7:45pm, August 15, 2017 – December 7, 2017, in Education Building, Room 2165

Course Catalog available at:
http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar/pdf/catalogs/GraduateCatalog/index.htm
under Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Programs

Prerequisites: N/A

FOLIO address: http://my.georgiasouthern.edu

Catalog Description
This course will introduce students to geographic information systems (GIS) to map and spatially analyze public health and demographic data. Students will learn the fundamentals of the ArcMap software system and ways to integrate cartography into biomedical informatics practice. Beyond use of GIS for cartography, this course will also examine ethical issues and methods of analyzing demographic and spatial health patterns using GIS and demography analysis methods. The versatility of GIS in a public health setting will be examined and will include exercises involving GIS applications in health marketing, demography, epidemiology, and health care systems. For example, we will look at how different socioeconomic groups use urban spaces differently in terms of transportation and how these differences in navigation impact contact points for health marketing. Other issues covered in the class will be the ethics of GIS, manipulation of data, sources of data, and understanding some commonly used public health datasets such as the YRBS, BRFSS, and US Census.

Required Textbook:
Provided in sections online

Additional Readings:
See syllabus & website for additional assigned articles.

**Required Resource:**
Microsoft Office Professional (available in computer labs)
ArcGIS (access code to be provided to students by the instructor)

**MPH Core Competencies in Health Policy & Management**

1. Demonstrate the ability to describe and apply core principles of public health (assessment, assurance, and policy development) for the purpose of improving population health.
2. Illustrate the ability to apply a “systems thinking” approach to solving public health problems associated with organizations.
3. Interpret trends in resource allocation on communities, with an emphasis in rural and underserved areas.
4. Conduct and interpret relevant policy-based research using appropriate research designs and analytic techniques.
5. Communicate health policy and management principles and concepts to lay and professional audiences through both oral and written communication.

**Course Learning Objectives**

1. Students will also learn how to access, use, and understand the collection methodologies behind commonly used demographic and health datasets.
2. The students will learn how to employ the fundamental functions of the ArcGIS software a) to embed and analyze data spatially, b) to transform and manipulate existing basemaps to create new and more specialized basemaps, c) to analyze spatial data within ArcGIS, and d) to produce finished products adhering to professional cartographic and ethical standards.
3. Students will learn how to combine their GIS technical skills and their knowledge of health datasets to explore and analyze the spatial aspects of health care.
4. Describe spatial aspects to health behaviors, health marketing, and medical care.
5. Create maps using existing basemaps.
6. Create new basemaps using existing basemaps.
7. Describe key ethical concerns to mapping health care data.
8. Access and describe key public health data sets.
9. Use the fundamentals of the ArcGIS software to create maps.
10. Analyze spatial data correctly.
11. Design finished layouts meeting cartographic design standards.
12. Produce location and thematic maps.
Overview of the content to be covered the semester:
All assignments are due at 5pm Eastern on the due date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Exercises</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Aug 15</td>
<td>Spatiality: The Geography in GIS, Basic GIS terminology</td>
<td>Ex. 1, Cognitive Mapping</td>
<td>Aug 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Aug 22</td>
<td>Basic toolbars, Shapefiles</td>
<td>Ex. 2, Health Maps</td>
<td>Aug 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Aug 29</td>
<td>Mapping existing data, The US Census and ACS</td>
<td>Ex. 3, Choropleth Mapping</td>
<td>Sept 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Sept 5</td>
<td>Breaking data, demography tools</td>
<td>Ex. 4, Demographic Profiles</td>
<td>Sept 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Sept 12</td>
<td>Creating new shapefiles, BRFSS</td>
<td>Ex. 5, Mapping Health Districts</td>
<td>Sept 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Sept 19</td>
<td>Creating layering effects, YRBS</td>
<td>Ex. 6, Layering</td>
<td>Sept 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Sept 26</td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam is on Sept 26</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Oct 3</td>
<td>Mapping rural/urban</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Oct 10</td>
<td>Cartographic standards and layout design, NACCHO, NALBOH and ASTHO Profiles</td>
<td>Ex. 7, Map Layout</td>
<td>Oct 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Oct 17</td>
<td>GIS and ethics; Moving and manipulating features,</td>
<td>Ex. 8, Moving and Resizing Maps</td>
<td>Oct 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Oct 24</td>
<td>Adding new data 1: Calculating new fields and manually entering data</td>
<td>Ex. 9, Showing New Data</td>
<td>Oct 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Oct 31</td>
<td>Working with point and line data</td>
<td>Ex. 10, Buffering</td>
<td>Nov 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Nov 7</td>
<td>No Lecture: APHA –Atlanta</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov 14</td>
<td>Advanced Labeling</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Nov 21</td>
<td>No Class: Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Nov 28</td>
<td>Taking GIS Inside: Asset management and planning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Dec 5</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam held at 5pm in our usual room</strong></td>
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**Instructional Methods:**
Class is taught online.

**Course Assignments:**

Exercises (50%): This is a very “hands-on” course where you will complete assignments working with GIS and its concepts. These assignments are to be submitted online via Folio.

Examinations (50%): Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basis</th>
<th>Percentage of grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 exercises (5% each)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 examinations (25% each)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 - 79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 - 69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 - 59</td>
<td>F</td>
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**Expectations:**
All assignments must be delivered to the instructor on the specified due date and time. Late assignments will not be accepted. Extensions will not be offered. Missed quizzes and exams may not be made up. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Class Attendance and Participation Policy**
Federal regulations require attendance be verified prior to distribution of financial aid allotments. Regular attendance is expected. However, attendance will not be officially recorded after the first class period.

Attendance at all scheduled classes and online chat sessions is required by Health Policy and Management policy. Unexcused absences will incur deduction of one letter grade per day late for any assignments. To request an excused absence, please contact Dr. Jones via email and arrange to make up
any missed work. Requests are preferably made two weeks in advance, but Dr. Jones understands that certain emergencies do not allow for such advanced arrangements.

**Plagiarism:**
"According to the Academic Dishonesty Policy of GSU, Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

A. Directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them.

B. Using published or unpublished sources of information without identifying them.

C. Paraphrasing material or ideas without identifying the source.

D. Unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic material.

If you are accused of plagiarism by a JPHCOPH, the following policy, as per the Judicial Affairs website (http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/judicial/faculty.htm) will be enforced:

**PROCEDURES FOR ADJUDICATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY CASES**

**First Offense - In Violation Plea**
1. If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, the professor should contact the Office of Judicial Affairs to determine if this is a first violation of academic dishonesty. The incident will be reported via the following website: http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/judicial/faculty.htm

2. If it is a first violation, the professor should talk with the student about the violation. If the student accepts responsibility in writing and the professor decides to adjudicate the case, the following procedures will be followed:
   a. The student will be placed on disciplinary probation for a minimum of one semester by the Office of Judicial Affairs.
   b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor (from receiving a 0 on the assignment to receiving a failing grade in the class).
   c. A copy of all the material involved in the case (Academic Dishonesty Report Form and the Request For Instructor to Adjudicate Form) and a brief statement from the professor concerning the facts of the case and the course syllabus should be mailed to the Office of Judicial Affairs for inclusion in the student’s discipline record.

**First Offense - Not In Violation Plea (student does not admit the violation)**
If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, the professor should contact the Office of Judicial Affairs to determine if this is the first or second violation of academic dishonesty. The student will be charged with academic dishonesty and the University Judicial Board or a University Hearing Officer would hear the case. If the student is found responsible, the following penalty will normally be imposed:
   a. The student will be placed on Disciplinary Probation for a minimum of one semester by
the Office of Judicial Affairs.

b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor.

**Second Violation of Academic Dishonesty**

If the professor and the Dean of Students agree that the evidence is sufficient to warrant a charge of academic dishonesty, and if it is determined this is the second violation, the student will be charged with academic dishonesty and the University Judicial Board or a University Hearing Officer would hear the case.

**If the student is found responsible, the following penalty will normally be imposed:**

a. Suspension for a minimum of one semester or expulsion.

b. The student will be subject to any academic sanctions imposed by the professor.

**NOT RESPONSIBLE FINDING**

When a student is found not responsible of academic dishonesty, the work in question (assignment, paper, test, etc.) would be forwarded to the Department Chair. It is the responsibility of the Department Chair to ensure that the work is evaluated by a faculty member other than the individual who brought the charge and, if necessary, submit a final grade to the Registrar. For the protection of the faculty member and the student, the work in question should not be referred back to the faculty member who charged the student with academic dishonesty.

In the case of a Department Chair bringing charges against a student, an administrator at the Dean’s level will ensure that the student’s work is evaluated in an appropriate manner.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

In accordance with provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and the Georgia Open Records Act, any information related to a violation of academic dishonesty or the outcome of a judicial hearing regarding academic dishonesty, is prohibited and must be treated as confidential by members of the faculty."

**University Calendar for the Semester**

The University Calendar is located with the semester schedule and can be found at:

http://em.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar