

**GGY 328: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems &  
GGY 592: Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems**

Summer II 2009

Dr. Joanne Halls

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Schedule: June 23 through July 24 (see weekly schedule)  
Last class: July 23  
Final Exam: July 24 (11:00 am)

Lectures: DeLoach 125 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur 10:15-11:20

Labs: DeLoach 125 Mon, Tues, Wed 11:30-12:50

Office Hours: By appointment (send me an email)

Lab Hours: Open 8:00-4:00 Monday through Thursday and 8:00-11:30 Friday  
After Hours: call campus police to let you in.

**Course Objective:** The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The course will cover concepts and issues of data structures, data management, spatial analysis, and display of geographic information in a computer-based environment. Instruction is provided through lectures, demonstrations, and computer software exercises using ArcGIS Version 9.2.

**Text:** Theobald, David M., 2007, *GIS Concepts and ArcGIS Methods, Third Edition*.  
Conservation Planning Technologies, Fort Collins, Colorado.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. Most of the questions on the exams will be derived from class lectures and lab material. It is imperative that you attend both the lectures and labs in order to understand the material. I will record attendance at the beginning of each class just to tally who is present. Your attendance record will not be used for computing any portion of your grade. Do not leave before the end of the lab period unless you have turned in your assignment.

Spatial Analysis Lab: See hours above. On occasion students from other classes will use this facility so please look to see that no class is being conducted before sitting down at a computer. For out of class help, I am available by appointment so send me an email if you would like to schedule a time to meet.

**Lab Exercises:** The exercises are designed to develop your GIS skills by using ESRI's ArcGIS software. Collaboration on assignments is permitted, however you must do your own work in order to successfully understand the material that will be on the exams. It is important that you practice the software covered in the exercises in order to fully comprehend the various techniques and be comfortable with figuring out problems while in a testing (stressful) situation. All exercises are due **before** you begin the next exercise. Each day that an assignment is late (which includes later than your lab start time on the day the assignment is due!) **10 percent** will be deducted from your grade.

**Undergraduate Grading:** Your final grade will be determined as: midterm exam - 30%, final exam - 30%, and exercises - 40%. Each exam has a lecture (or theory) component and a lab exercise component and both are counted equally.

**Graduate Grading:** Your final grade will be the same as above, except in addition you are required to write a term paper. See Blackboard for the guidelines for this paper. Your paper will count for 5% (or half a letter grade) of your total grade in the course. In your Blackboard grades you will have a final grade. I will then grade your paper and recalculate your final grade for the course (final grade \* .95 + paper grade). **It is due before 4 pm on July 23.** I will deduct 1 point (out of 5) if it is later than 5 pm on July 23 and another point if you turn it in after 1 pm on July 28. I will not accept your paper after 6 pm July 28.

The grading scale is 94-100%=A, 90-93%=A-, 87-89%=B+, 84-86%=B, 80-83%=B-, 77-79%=C+, 74-76%=C, 70-73%=C-, 67-69%=D+, 64-66%=D, 60-63%=D-, and below 60%=F.

**Academic Honor Code:** UNCW “is committed to the proposition that the pursuit of truth requires the presence of honesty among all involved... According to UNCW’s Code of Student Life, “all students shall be responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that helps to enhance an environment of learning in which the rights, dignity, worth and freedom of each member of the academic community are respected” (page 4). The academic honor code also specifies that “no form of dishonesty among its faculty or students will be tolerated”. “It shall be the responsibility of every faculty member, student, administrator and staff member of the university community to uphold and maintain the academic standards and integrity of the university. Any member of the university community who has reasonable grounds to believe that an infraction of the Academic Honor Code has occurred has an obligation to report the alleged violation” Plagiarism, bribery, and cheating are not allowed and will lead to disciplinary action. It is the student’s responsibility to conform to the academic honor code at all times. Read pages 6 and 7 of the Code of Student Life in order to clearly understand the definitions of plagiarism, bribery and cheating.