2017 IDEAS FSS-Vis Syllabus

Sept. 5 – 15, Tech F491

Instructors:

Aaron Geller (AG; CIERA, Lead Instructor): a-geller@northwestern.edu

Mitch Barklage (MB; EPS): mitchell.barklage@northwestern.edu

Mike Cronin (MC; NUIT Visualization) : michael.cronin@northwestern.edu
Frank Elavsky (FE; NUIT Visualization) : elavsky@northwestern.edu

Steve Franconeri (SF; Dept. of Psychology) : franconeri@northwestern.edu

Adam Miller (AM; CIERA) : amiller@northwestern.edu

Materials available on AG's GitHub site

Course Schedule Summary:

First week (Sept. 5 - 8): Instructor led learning (required attendance)

- 9am 12pm : lecture / discussion / hands-on tutorials
- 1pm 4pm : independent work and (short) "show and tell"

Second week (Sept. 11 – 14): Independent projects

- 9am 12pm : open lab, required attendance
- 1pm 4pm : open lab, optional attendance on Sept. 11 13 (required on Sept. 14)

Sept. 15, 12pm - 2pm in Tech F210, Final Demos: 10-minutes per student + questions (+ pizza)

First Week Schedule Detail:

Tuesday Sept. 5: Introduction, Creating an effective graph, & matplotlib

- 9:00am coffee + bagels
- 9:00 9:30 : course introduction (AG)
- 9:30 10:30 : Introduction to visualization design and cognition (SF)
- 10:30 12:00: How to create an effective graph + hands-on Excel (FE) and matplotlib (AG)
- 1:00 2:30 : Students design their own plot in matplotlib
- 2:30 4:00 : Students "show and tell", and discussion with AG and FE

Wednesday Sept. 6: Generic Mapping Tool (GMT)

- 9:00 12:00 : Lecture and hands-on with GMT + exporting to a movie in Photoshop (MB)
- 1:00 2:30 : Student projects with GMT
- 2:30 4:00 : Students "show and tell", and discussion with MB

Thursday Sept. 7: Web-facing visualizations with D3.js

- 9:00 12:00 : Introduction to web-facing visualizations + hands-on with D3.js (FE)
- 1:00 2:30 : Student projects with D3.js
- 2:30 4:00 : Students "show and tell", and discussion with FE and AG

Friday Sept. 8: Survey of other useful visualization software

- 9:00am coffee + bagels
- 9:00 12:00 : 15 minute hands-one demos of most of the following
 - Volumetric Data: ParaView (AG), Vislt
 - Web-facing Tools: x3dom (AG), Bokeh (AG), Plotly (FE), WebGL (AG)
 - o General Interactives : OpenGL (AG)
 - Artist Tools: <u>Photoshop</u> (MC), <u>Illustrator</u> (MC), <u>Maya</u> (MC), <u>Blender</u>
 - o Python Tools : Seaborn (AM)
 - Mapping: NASA World Wind (MB)
- 1:00 2:30 : Student exploration of these tools
- 2:30 3:30 : Student "show and tell"
- 3:30 4:00 : Discuss expectations of 2nd week project

Second Week Schedule Detail (required hours in red):

Monday Sept. 11: Begin visualization projects

- 9:00 12:00 : AG meets 1-on-1 with students to discuss projects; students work independently
- 1:00 4:00 : students work independently, AG available for questions

Tuesday Sept. 12: Continue working on visualization projects

- 9:00 12:00 : AG meets 1-on-1 with students to check in; students work independently
- 1:00 4:00 : students work independently, AG available for questions

Wednesday Sept. 13: Half of visualization project must be completed before noon

- 9:00 12:00 : AG meets 1-on-1 with students to check in; students work independently
- 1:00 4:00 : students work independently, AG available for questions

Thursday Sept. 14: Final day before presentations, draft demos due before 4pm

- 9:00 12:00 : students work independently, AG available for questions
- 1:00 coffee + snacks
- 1:00 4:00 : AG meets 1-on-1 with students to discuss demos; students work independently

Friday Sept. 15, : Final Demos

- 9:00 : Final Demo Writeup due to AG (1-page description + Picture/Video/Website)
- 12:00 2:00 : Tech F210, Final Demos : 10-minutes per student + questions (+ pizza)