GEOPROCESSING ERRORS

THE USUAL SUSPECTS

1. are there any spaces in your file path leading to the file you're using? Arc HATES spaces and will occasionally make an error.

2. has anything been left as a 'default' name? 'default' names can also cause Arc to randomly throw an error.

3. did the editor toolbar get turned on? Sometimes that can block processing.

4. have you tried running the operation, allowing it to process and finish using "default" settings? it's paradoxical, but leaving settings as untouched as possible can sometimes solve the problem. if it solves the problem, export the file that Arc produced from the default geodatabase and re-name it something appropriate.

5. have you tried running the operation in isolation, or as close to isolation, as possible? that means run it in a brand new, clean .mxd with only the layers it needs to run and nothing else. Sometimes the 'reset' .mxd will make all the difference.

6. have you tried changing other settings as possible? finding anything that you can do differently can sometimes help solve the problem.

7. Sometimes Arc decides it doesn't like raster data that's undergone a lot of transformations. Do you have work from earlier stages? Try going back a few steps to run the processing again. The further back you can go so you're working with files that are as clean as possible, the more likely this solution is to work. Sometimes students have to go back really far, which feels absolutely awful but is never as bad as it seems.