

**GE-325: Cartography**  
**Map Design Project 1**  
**Summer 2018**

**Objectives**

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of how to design a map appropriate to a topic or purpose.
2. Show good map design and mapping process techniques.
3. Explain the mapping process and answer a research question related to your map.

**Mission**

The US Census Bureau is interested in understanding population density patterns in the United States on a county basis. They are also interested in how the transportation network(s) interact with population density. They have asked you to:

1. Design and create the map using Census data and some mapping software (QGIS/Inkscape, ArcGIS, etc).
2. Write a justification for your design choices and implementation decisions.
3. Answer the research question: What are the spatial patterns of population relative to the transportation networks?
4. Submit all of this in a report that includes all the above information with a clean cover page. The report should look professional.

**Consider**

1. You must select a projection that is *appropriate to the United States*; there is a chapter on this in your book.
2. You must explain the choices you made relative to the designs of the map.
3. You must classify your data into a set of categories and select an appropriate color set; there is a chapter on this in your book.