

**GE-325: Cartography**  
**Final Project**  
**Summer 2018**  
**DUE: July 27, 2018**

**Mission**

The final project is where you will demonstrate your understanding of the cartographic process as well as your ability to use thematic maps to communicate and distribute spatial information. This project asks you to ask and answer a research question, collect and analyze data to address the question, design and construct appropriate map(s), and report your findings through writing.

**Objectives**

1. Choose a topic that interests you.
2. Search for research articles or map products that are related to that topic. Ideally, you should find a few articles for a topic so that you could do a comparison among these different studies. Google Scholar is great resource. Once you find a few articles or map products, you need to read through them and generate some ideas.
3. You are going to apply cartographic techniques and design in order to produce a high quality map or series of maps. **Finding the data to generate your maps may be the most difficult and time-consuming part of this project.** Remember that you will need to find both spatial data (shapefiles, imagery, etc) and attribute data. You can email me if you have questions.
4. Write a report. The report should include a discussion of the specific design choices you made. In your report, you must provide a title along with the following components:
  - a. Description of research problem: The significance of your proposed research (or why this research). What are your research objectives/problem statement? What did you intend to accomplish?
  - b. Literature Review (conceptual framework). You will need to provide a brief review about the research status for the topic you choose to work on. A few previous research should be mentioned.
  - c. Description of data and study area, plus a short description of software and hardware used.
  - d. Methodology: Technical details about your working procedural route, paying attention on map design techniques used in your research.
  - e. Results: You should provide a detailed analysis in relation to your research objectives.
  - f. Conclusions and Discussion: Summarize the main points from your analysis and answer your research question. What broad conclusion can you draw from your findings and results that address (answer) your research question? What recommendations do you have for others (for example, what would you suggest to others if they were to undertake a similar study? What would be the next steps for carrying through on the study if this is not the end of all the study in your topic?
  - g. You must include a list of the literature you cited (include the source of data).
  - h. I would expect around 10 pages in 12 font size Times New Roman and double spaced.