

ps3: first draft of the final project; due after spring break: 3/22

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1. have a set of maps that tell a story
2. typically 2-10 maps: the fewer and the more interesting, the better
3. important: it has to be a significant step up above what you did so far! i'll grade harshly this one!

general notes (binding from ps1) and progressively more important in later ps: focus on making the map(s) interesting and pretty; tell a story; answer the 'so what?' question (see below for elaboration)

general notes (**always the same**):

always submit:

- the maps(s) (pdf), can be combined in one file with "metadata" and "journal"
- all data: raw gis data (e.g. .shp .dbf and .shx and others if any), and any other data (e.g., .csv, .xls) that you used to produce a map
- "metadata" (pdf or txt) containing at least: what is U/A; # of obs; data source name, including url; can combine with "journal" if you like
- "journal" (pdf or txt) that briefly enumerates (and perhaps explains) steps you've taken, any problems you've encountered; also can use it to ask questions!

general ideas:

- the map needs to be "pretty" (syllabus: pretty.pdf): must have legend, title, cut decimal points, make fonts small, etc)
- the map must be "interesting" (syllabus: pretty.pdf, final_project.pdf): ask yourself the "so what?" question; essentially, you need to tell a story with your map
- in addition to submission, you will usually (depending on how we do on time) present the map in class (max 5-7min (depending on class size); i will cut you off!)

tips:

- start early; start tomorrow or the day after tomorrow or tonight! otherwise you'll forget it...and then, next week polish it
- use your (gis) data—again, if you do not have dataset, have a look at data_sources.csv from the class, or email me
- you cannot use the data I used in the class (or that I am using in the slides posted on the website for the future classes)
- assignments are due by the beginning of the class in Sakai's dropbox
- the only allowed format for output is pdf and txt (no ms word etc)
- if you choose to work in a group, write down the names of people you worked with; otherwise we'll subtract points
- do not use exclusively variables from datasets that i have done in class
- that is, you cannot just submit something that i have done in class

basics:

- for big files (that do not fit into email) use something like wordpress or dropbox and give us the link
- do not double-zip (zipped file in a zipped file)
- per url's give exact addresses, not just generic (e.g. <http://census.gov>)- i must be able to find it; sometimes there is no generic URL—then give steps: what I need to click