

# ps4: using gis tools

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due in 2 weeks: 4/5

1. use at least **5 different tools** from advQ.pdf (say geocode, spatial join, dissolve, SQL, and centroids) or some tool we did not cover. By tools I mean tools found under menus: Vector, Raster, Processing. (From MMQGIS: Spatial Join and Geocode qualify as well). Also some Plugins would qualify as a “tool” (Basemap like OSM map won’t qualify). Ask if in doubt. The idea is that you use some gis processing, that is, you’ll transform data in some way or produce some new data.
2. prove (typically with maps) that you have used the tool—say show a map with original and dissolved polygons; a map showing counties that satisfy some sql query and original map; or say produce a csv of places that lie within a mile from a hwy, etc

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## general notes (always the same):

broad idea:

- it will be cumulative: ps will accumulate into a final project
- it will be also collaborative: you will see what others are doing

submission guidelines:

- **note! extra credit!** just submit in your wikipage at <https://maps-dppa.camden.rutgers.edu>, or in Sakai: submission must be in pdf, you will just have one pdf, and then keep on adding to it—never delete what you have already submitted—for each subsequent ps, just add a new section with section titled ps1, ps2, etc
- each ps section will have a brief description of a map, say a sentence or few and not more than a paragraph! (except the final ps), and it will also contain a journal (that lists any problems you’ve encountered; also can use it to ask questions! [if no problems/questions, then no journal!]), and inserted map of course (make it big with nice resolution, but not too big, say each map should be at least half-page if not much detail or full page if detailed and <1mb)
- and in pdf there must be exact links to all of the source data (so that i could create the map myself); note: exact links, eg do not say census.gov, but give full url to the data—i must be able to find it; sometimes there is no generic URL—then give steps: what I need to click to get the data!; or upload data say to your dropbox or google drive and provide link to there; so there must be all 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; in rare circumstances if you use confidential/private data that cannot be shared, please contact me (and still do provide links to all the other data you’re using)
- the pdf must have a substantive name that describes the project, unit of analysis but yet be brief, <10words, say ‘income inequality across nj counties’ or say ‘nj counties: income inequality’; do not put your name in file name!
- the pdf file is submitted into Sakai’s Resources folder
- note: instead of pdf, it can also be html/mhtml or ps/eps, but not ms word doc/x!
- In Sakai’s Resources folder I will have one text file with comments on everyone’s ps
- in addition to submission, you will usually (depending on how we do on time) present the map in class—can just show pdf(s) exported from qgis (max 5-7min (depending on class size); i will cut you off!)

to reiterate, for each ps the following must be always submitted as an added section to the same pdf file:

- the map(s) with short description
- very specific links to all data
- “journal” [if no problems/questions, then no journal!]
- and prepare for presentation

as soon as possible (and definitely once we cover pretty.pdf, final\_project.pdf) :

- 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

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 Resources folder
- if you choose to work in a group, write down the names of people you worked with; otherwise i'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