

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY  
GR2313 Maps and Remote Sensing Lab  
Fall 2025

Method of Instruction: Asynchronous online  
Instructor: Hafez Ahmad  
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Office: 109 Hilbun Hall

**Office Hours**

My office hours are via WebEx on Monday and Tuesday from 11 am to 12 pm (Central Time). If you need to schedule a meeting outside these hours, please email me for an appointment.

You may email questions at any time from Monday through Friday. I will try to respond ASAP, but answering outside of office hours, on weekends, or holidays may take a little longer.

**Course Description**

This course is a primer for students enrolled in the geospatial and remote sensing field. It aims to add knowledge and skills to read maps and understand the technologies used to create them. It covers fundamental principles of cartography and remote sensing, including their types and applications. This course is divided into two parts: lecture and lab. The combination of these two will provide students with a thorough understanding of maps, their interpretation, and their uses.

**Textbook**

Kimerling, J. A., Buckely, A. R., Muehrcke, P. C., & Muehrcke, J. O. (2016). Map Use: Reading, Analysis, Interpretation (8th ed.). Redlands, California: ESRI Press.  
Other editions or eBooks are fine too.

**Grading**

Activities		Points	Percentage
Test 1		50	11%
Test 2		50	11%
Final Exam		100	22%
Attendance		20	4%
12 Labs	12*20	240	52%
<b>Total</b>		<b>460</b>	<b>100%</b>

Percentage	Grades
90-100%	A
80-89.99%	B
70-79.99%	C
60-69.99%	D
Less than 60%	F

### Tentative Schedule

Date	Lectures (Monday & Wednesday)
08/20/2025	Introduction
08/25/2025	Chapter 1 Basics of Maps
08/27/2025	Chapter 2 Elements of a map
09/01/2025	<b>Labor Day Holiday</b>
09/03/2025	Chapter 2 Elements of a map
09/08/2025	Chapter 3 Shape of the Earth
09/10/2025	
09/15/2025	Chapter 4 Map Scale
09/17/2025	
09/22/2025	Chapter 5 Map projection
09/24/2025	
09/29/2025	<b>Test 1</b>
10/01/2025	Chapter 6 Grid Coordinate Systems
10/06/2025	
10/08/2025	
10/09/2025- 10/10/2025	<b>Fall Break</b>
10/13/2025	Chapter 7 Land Partitioning
10/15/2025	
10/20/2025	Chapter 8 Map Design
10/22/2025	
10/27/2025	Chapter 9 Qualitative Thematic Maps
10/29/2025	Revision (Chapter 6 - 9)
11/03/2025	<b>Test 2</b>
11/05/2025	Chapter 10 Quantitative Thematic Maps
11/10/2025	Chapter 11 Map Accuracy
11/12/2025	
11/17/2025	Chapter 12 Introduction to Remote Sensing
11/19/2025	
11/24/2025	Revision
11/26/2025- 11/28/2025	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
12/01/2025	Revision and classes end
12/03/2025	Reading day
12/09/2025	<b>Final Exam (8:00 am to 11:00 am)</b>

Note: The preceding topics are intended as general guidelines and may be subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

## **Labs**

**The labs will be asynchronous online, based on each chapter, and will be assigned weekly. They are due on Canvas on Thursday at 11:59 p.m.**

### Academic dishonesty

All students are expected to adhere to the MSU Code of Honor. Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code. For additional information please visit: <http://students.msstate.edu/pdf/honor-code.pdf>

Evidence of academic dishonesty may result in the student's failure of the course. The most common forms of academic dishonesty are plagiarism and cheating in exams and assignments. Plagiarism: It refers to using material, ideas, information, language or writing from other sources without proper acknowledgement of the original source such as books, magazines, and websites. Plagiarism, cheating in exams and assignments will result in student's failure of the course.

### Title IX

MSU is committed to complying with Title IX, a federal law that prohibits discrimination, including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU's educational programs and activities must be free from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination, sexual violence and/or harassment by any member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU's Director of Title IX/EEO Programs at 325-8124 or by e-mail to [titleix@msstate.edu](mailto:titleix@msstate.edu). Additional resources are available at Dean of Students Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Assault.

### DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Mississippi State University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (01 Montgomery Hall) collaborates with students who have disabilities to arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you may have, a disability, please contact [drc@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:drc@saffairs.msstate.edu) or 662-325-3335 to arrange a confidential

discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, conditions related to mental health, chronic health, attention, learning, autism, brain injury, vision, hearing, mobility, speech, or intellectual disabilities. In the case of short-term disabilities (e.g., broken arm), students and instructors can often work to minimize barriers. If additional assistance is needed, please contact the Disability Resource Center.

#### CONTINUITY OF INSTRUCTION

If you become unable to continue class participation due to extenuating circumstances, (e.g., health and safety, loss of power, etc.) you should contact me and your advisor for guidance. For additional guidance, please refer to Academic Operating Policy 12.09.

#### UNIVERSITY SAFETY STATEMENT

Mississippi State University values the safety of all campus community members. Students are encouraged to register for Maroon Alert texts and to download the Everbridge App. Visit the Personal Information section in Banner on your MyState portal to register. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort via Safe Walk, call University Police at 662-325-2121, or in case emergency, call 911. For more information regarding safety and to view available training including helpful videos, visit [ready.msstate.edu](http://ready.msstate.edu)

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<https://www.instructionalguide.msstate.edu/resources/syllabus-statements/videotaping-lectures-background-copyright>

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