
CRM 477/GRY 497**Semester Hours – 3****1:25 PM – 2:40 PM, M/W****Classroom: Temple 340****Instructor: Ron Malega, Ph.D.****Assistant Professor****Office: Temple 350****Ph: 417-836-4556****E-mail: rmalega@missouristate.edu****Office hours: 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM (M/W)
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM (T/Th)**

Course Description: CRM 477/GRY 497 - Geographic and Spatial Analysis of Crime

In this workshop-style course we will explore the relationship between crime and space and gain experience using computerized crime mapping software. Students will learn skills to make and analyze maps while developing a foundation for more advanced courses in Geographic Information Sciences.

Prerequisites: ability to use desktop computers, MS-Office, and the Internet.

Required Textbook:

Caplan, J. M. (2010). *GIS for public safety: An annotated guide to ArcGIS tool & procedures*. Newark, NJ: Rutgers Center on Public Security. [FREE PDF available at www.rutgerscps.org/gisbook]

NOTE: Additional readings as assigned.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

1. Hands-on introduction to vector (and some raster) GIS using ArcGIS software.
2. Model geographic objects such as bounded areas (e.g., census tracts or service districts), specific locations (e.g., buildings or events such as crimes), and networks (e.g., streets).
3. Learn how to collect, manage and edit spatial data (including administrative records and self-collected data) for use with GIS.
4. Develop skills necessary for carrying out basic GIS projects and for advanced GIS coursework.
5. Begin to develop critical thinking skills for reviewing and interpreting finished maps.

Class Organization:

The course will incorporate diverse learning activities including lectures, PowerPoint presentations, instructor-led skills training, and student practice sessions. Hands-on skills training will "walk" students through a series of tasks for GIS mapping and analysis. A "watch" and "follow" methodology will be employed. After watching the instructor demonstrate a technique, students will follow along in an effort to complete structured lessons in class. Lectures or discussions will focus around the daily class topic. Lessons will focus on applying ArcGIS software to make maps and manage spatial data.

Brief Course Evaluation:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Assignments (70% of grade) | 700 points |
| Attendance (15% of grade) | 150 points |
| GIS Project (15% of grade) | 400 points |
| Total Points | 1000 points |

Assignments and projects must be turned in by the due dates to receive a grade. Your final score will be converted to a letter grade according to the following scale:

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| A | 950 – 1000 points | C | 730 – 769 points |
| A- | 900 – 949 points | C- | 700 – 729 points |
| B+ | 870 – 899 points | D+ | 670 – 699 points |
| B | 830 – 869 points | D | 600 – 669 points |
| B- | 800 – 829 points | F | 0 – 599 points |
| C+ | 770 – 799 points | | |

There is no rounding of grades (e.g. 899.9 points equals a B+).

Blackboard:

You will need to enroll yourself in the Blackboard course listing for this semester (**CRM477-GRY497:Combined-SP17**). **This is not optional.** You need to enroll by the end of the first week of class. Information can be accessed as follows:

Course Information – Policy Statements

Course Documents – Study Guides, PowerPoint Presentations (outlines), Assigned Readings, etc.

Assignments – Assignments and due dates

External Links – Links to other assigned readings and useful websites

Tools – My Grades – Your scores for all assignments and tests

If you are not familiar with the Blackboard system, instructions on how to enroll yourself in a course are available. Go to <http://blackboard.missouristate.edu> and select “New Blackboard Users.” *Please let me know if you have any trouble getting enrolled.*

Nondiscrimination Statement:

Missouri State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, and maintains a grievance procedure available to any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against. At all times, it is your right to address inquiries or concerns about possible discrimination to the Office for Institutional Equity and Compliance, Park Central Office Building, 117 Park Central Square, Suite 111, (417) 836-4252. Other types of concerns (i.e., concerns of an academic nature) should be discussed directly with your instructor and can also be brought to the attention of your instructor’s Department Head. Please visit the OED website at www.missouristate.edu/equity/.

Disability Accommodation Statement:

To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact the Director of the Disability Resource Center, Plaster Student Union, Suite 405, (417) 836-4192 or (417) 836-6792 (TTY),

www.missouristate.edu/disability. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to the Disability Resource Center prior to receiving accommodations. The Disability Resource Center refers some types of accommodation requests to the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, which also provides diagnostic testing for learning and psychological disabilities. For information about testing, contact the Director of the Learning Diagnostic Clinic, (417) 836-4787, <http://psychology.missouristate.edu/ldc>.

Academic Integrity/Cheating and Plagiarism Statement:

Missouri State University is a community of scholars committed to developing educated persons who accept the responsibility to practice personal and academic integrity. You are responsible for knowing and following the university's student honor code, Student Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures (<http://www.missouristate.edu/assets/policy/AcademicIntegrityPolicyRev-1-08.pdf>) and also available at the Reserves Desk in Meyer Library. Any student participating in any form of academic dishonesty will be subject to sanctions as described in this policy.

Attendance Policy Statement:

Attendance is mandatory. Punctuality to class is important. Your ability to benefit from any extra credit offered during the course of the semester will depend, in part, on the instructor's subjective evaluation of your commitment to the course. Punctuality to class is one factor that demonstrates commitment. Being consistently late does not demonstrate commitment.

Attendance involves more than merely showing up for class, it means you must be prepared by reading the assigned readings found in the *Tentative Class Schedule*. Be prepared to participate in discussions and answer questions. The University's attendance policy can be found at <http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/attendan.html>.

Cell Phone Policy Statement:

As a member of the learning community, each student has a responsibility to other students who are members of the community. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. Therefore, the Office of the Provost prohibits the use by students of cell phones, pagers, PDAs, or similar communication devices during scheduled classes. All such devices must be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class. Given the fact that these same communication devices are an integral part of the University's emergency notification system, an exception to this policy would occur when numerous devices activate simultaneously. When this occurs, students may consult their devices to determine if a university emergency exists. If that is not the case, the devices should be immediately returned to silent mode and put away. Other exceptions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Emergency Response Policy Statement:

Students who require assistance during an emergency evacuation must discuss their needs with their professors and the Disability Resource Center. If you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

For additional information students should contact the Disability Resource Center, 836-4192 (PSU 405), or Donald Clark, Director of Safety and Transportation, at 836-8870.

For further information on Missouri State University's Emergency Response Plan, please refer to the following web site: <http://www.missouristate.edu/safetran/erp.htm>.

Dropping the Class Statement:

It is your responsibility to understand the University's procedure for dropping a class. If you stop attending this class but do not follow proper procedure for dropping the class, you will receive a failing grade and will also be financially obligated to pay for the class. For information about dropping a class or withdrawing from the university, contact the Office of the Registrar at 836-5520.

Relevant drop deadlines may be found via MSU's *Academic Calendar* (www.missouristate.edu/registrar/acad_cal.html).

Makeup Policy:

Makeups may be allowed for assignments with permission of the instructor. Makeups must be arranged prior to the exam or assignment if you know the date you will be away or in an emergency situation by contacting the instructor as soon as possible after the exam or exercise. The latter is designed to accommodate emergency situations and as such will require documentation of an appropriate emergency.

The instructor reserves the right to modify and update this syllabus (policy statement) as necessary. Any updates will be announced in class and an updated syllabus will be found on Blackboard. The most recent version of the syllabus found on Blackboard serves as the current policy for the class.

Detailed Course Requirements and Evaluation:

1. Assignments (worth 70% of the class grade). You are required to complete several assignments of varying length to demonstrate analytical and technical skills. You will have some classroom time to work on them, but it is expected you will need to complete them out of class. They should be submitted by the beginning of class on the day in which they are due.
2. Attendance (worth 15% of the class grade). Attendance is mandatory as this class has a workshop format.
3. GIS Project (worth 15% of the class grade). You will work to produce a GIS technical report and presentation to demonstrate your understanding of the major crime mapping skills and concepts presented in class.

READ ME NOTES:

- The course schedule will likely change as we progress throughout the semester. This includes assigned readings and assignments.

- Classroom etiquette: Please no side conversations during the lecture. No use of laptops, cellphones, or other technology unless it's related to classroom activity. Continued violation will result in me asking you to leave the class for the day and potentially a reduction in your grade. Do not come to class late or leave early. It is very distracting to the instructor and your fellow students.
- E-mail is the best way to communicate with me. I will e-mail class information/updates to your MSU e-mail and/or post the information on Blackboard. **You are responsible for regularly checking your MSU e-mail and logging onto Blackboard.**

Tentative Topical Course Outline with Class Assignment Dates: This is likely to change as we progress through the semester.

See Blackboard for current schedule.