

## Syllabus overview-01:450:355 Fall 2023

1. Canvas email will be used for written communication between the professor and students.

- **It is the student's responsibility to check their Rutgers email on a regular basis to ensure that they are not missing course related information.**
- You can change the email address used by Rutgers on the Net ID management page[Links to an external site.](#) (look for Manage Net ID Password[Links to an external site.](#) on the right side).

2. Students are expected to attend all classes.

- **If you expect to miss a class, please use the [University absence reporting website](https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/)[Links to an external site.](#) <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>[Links to an external site.](#) to indicate the date and reason for your absence (e.g. "medical" or "other").**
- **You will receive a confirmation email that your report was received** (also, an email is automatically sent to inform the instructor).

---

**Instructor:** Michael Siegel | **Office Hours:** Tuesday/Friday, 1:30pm and by arrangement.

**Email:** Please send email from within Canvas (if possible) to help me keep class related email from getting buried by other work related messages.

**Office:** Lucy Stone Hall, room B261

**Course meets:** Tuesday/Friday, 12:10-1:30pm

## Course Description

This course will emphasize cartographic design principles for effective map making that transcend technology (i.e. principles you can apply regardless of the tools being used to create the map).

The focus will be on **thematic** map design.

Below is a link for examples of thematic maps to help you see how they are different from a general reference map.

[Thematic maps](#) [Links to an external site.](#) from students in Advanced Cartography.

## Course Learning Objectives

- introduction to effective thematic map design, symbolization and graphic communication.
- to better understand the role of human perception in map use and map design.
- to explore sources of Geographic information and understand if they are reliable and appropriate to meet the requirements of your thematic mapping project.
- proficiency with the use of drawing software to produce thematic maps.

## Important Dates

- The first class meeting will be on Tuesday 9/5/2023 at 12:10pm.
- New Brunswick Academic Calendar: <https://nbregistrar.rutgers.edu/undergrad/calendar.htm> [Links to an external site.](#)
- Registrar's Important Dates webpage: <https://nbregistrar.rutgers.edu/undergrad/f23ugcal.htm> [Links to an external site.](#)
- The Production & Exam Schedule has the deadlines for each project. (To Be Announced)

## Basis for Course Grade

You grade for this course will be based on attendance, in-class assignments (graded on a Pass/No Credit basis), and three more challenging thematic mapping projects (graded with letter grades).

- 20% attendance and in-class assignments to learn Adobe Illustrator software and the principles of thematic map design.
- 20% exam
- 15% project 1
- 20% project 2
- 25% project 3

**In order to do well on the mapping projects, you have to become competent using *Adobe Illustrator CC* drawing software, and need to show you understand the principles of effective map design that we will be starting to explore this semester.**

## Backing up each version of your cartography project

- **It is essential that you have all your versions of a project backed up in at least two locations**, one "local" (e.g. on your computer's hard drive), and one in the cloud. Hard drives fail and you do not want to lose a week or more of work and have to start over.
- Rutgers has site licenses with Microsoft, Google, and Box that are available to you. This means you have access to unlimited storage space in your Rutgers' Microsoft OneDrive account, Scarlet Drive (Rutgers Google Drive), and Box.Rutgers.edu.
- Another easy backup strategy is to attach a copy of your Illustrator file in an email to yourself.

## Additional Course Guidelines

Critiquing map design is an important skill to develop. Please be respectful and thoughtful when critiquing the work of other students (or your instructor). Critiquing is meant to be constructive and helpful, not negative sounding criticism.

If you do well in the two cartography courses, you may want to ask your instructor for a recommendation for an internship, Graduate School, or a job. Recommendation forms often ask about a candidate's ability to communicate verbally and in writing, and how well they work with others. Class discussions and the critiques you will be asked to write are good opportunities to give your instructor some positive experiences to share in a recommendation.

## Academic Integrity

The consequences of scholastic dishonesty are very serious. Students are expected to understand and to act in accordance with the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy. Please review the [Rutgers' academic integrity policyLinks to an external site.](#)

Violations include: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, having someone else complete your course work, and facilitating violations of academic integrity by others. Resources for

Students: [http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/for-students/Links to an external site.](http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/home-2/for-students/Links to an external site)

Other sources of information to which you can refer include:

- [Rutgers New Brunswick Academic Integrity websiteLinks to an external site.](#)
- [Code of Student ConductLinks to an external site.](#)
- [Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic IntegrityLinks to an external site.](#)

## Accessibility Statement

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [see documentation guidelinesLinks to an external site.](#) If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the [Registration form on the ODS web siteLinks to an external site.](#)

## Core Curriculum Goals

[SAS Core CurriculumLinks to an external site.](#): This course satisfies both a SAS Core Curriculum Writing and Communication (WCD) requirement, and the old Information Technology and Research (ITR) requirement. After completing this course, students should be able to **communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry** and they should be able to **evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly**. Students will also learn about **analyzing and synthesizing information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights**. Also, students will learn about **employing current technologies to access information, to conduct research, and to communicate findings**.

## Student Support Resources

- [Counseling, Alcohol and Other Drug Assistance Program & Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\) now includes Counseling Services, Alcohol and Other Drug Assistance Program \(ADAP\) and Psychiatric Services.](#)[Links to an external site.](#)

- Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ  
08901 / [\*\*www.vpva.rutgers.edu\*\*](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu)/[Links to an external site.](#)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

- **Bias Incident Reporting and Support (DICE)**
- **Disability Services**

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / [\*\*https://ods.rutgers.edu\*\*](https://ods.rutgers.edu)/[Links to an external site.](#)