



HUAS 6315: The History of Cartography

Course Information

HUAS 6315, sec. 001
Fall 2014
Wednesday, 4–6:45 pm

Professor Contact Information

Prof. Mark Rosen
mark.rosen@utdallas.edu
Office: JO 5.114
Office phone: 972-883-2367
Office hours: Thurs. 10–11, or by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Graduate-student standing

Course Description

We live in a moment when our relationship with maps seems to be endlessly changing; from static paper maps to satellite images to GPS technologies, how our world is conceived and understood has undergone massive paradigm shifts (multiple times!) in recent years. Many questions concerning their production and use have opened up to us, but such inquiry into the role of maps is hardly new; in fact, as long as there have been maps, there have been theories about

their purpose. This course takes the long view in the history of cartography, from the earliest geographical representation to recent developments in the field. The seminar will not give the students a linear course in the history of cartography, but, rather, will use the concept of “mapping” to consider subjects as diverse as cosmology, landscape painting, architecture, diagrams of unreal places, visual or literary utopias, space-based narrative strategies, the longstanding debate about mapping as an art or science, the roles of maps as tools of power, the rise of real-time interactive mapping, and the ramifications of the most recent technologies on our lives.

Because this is a graduate class, we will have a fairly sizable amount of reading which all students are expected to complete. Some weeks will demand more reading time, especially early in the semester when we all will try to get up to speed on the general background to the topic.

Beginning in the fourth week, students will begin to be “responsible” for a week of readings. You will write and hand out to the entire group an analysis of 3 to 4 pages of your particular reading; this will serve as a springboard for our discussion, which you will have a hand in leading. There will be a midterm essay that you write that addresses the state of the field of cartographic history—you will be given the topic a couple days before it is due, and write it up, exam-style. Your final paper of 10 to 12 pages will concern a research project of your choosing. Much class time will be set aside to developing these ideas, and the final two weeks of classroom meetings will be dedicated to student presentations.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- To learn contemporary interdisciplinary approaches involving history, art, the history of science, and the development of technology.
- To hone students’ skills at presenting texts and visual material to other students.
- To learn research skills and grasp current methodological practices in research.

Required Textbooks and Materials

- Norman Thrower, *Maps and Civilization* (3rd ed.: Chicago, 2008)
- Patricia Seed, *The Oxford Map Companion* (Oxford, 2013)
- J. B. Harley, *The New Nature of Maps* (Baltimore, 2001)

There are many other readings on electronic reserve through our library. The password will be given out on the first day of class.

Course Requirements

1. **Reading Analysis**—In the third week of class, you will choose a week of readings from the syllabus to be responsible for. Not only will you lead the discussion of that reading for the group, but you will also hand out to everyone a paper of three to four pages analyzing the reading. The paper will be graded.

2. **Essay on Harley, *The New Nature of Maps***—As opposed to the first analysis, everyone in the class will write on the same topic; this paper will also be three to four pages (due Oct. 1).
3. **Midterm Essay**—You will be given a topic to write on three days prior to our class meeting. It will be a broad question asking you to discuss the themes of the course and the readings up to that point.
4. **Class Presentation of Research Project or Visual/Textual Analysis** (the subject of your research essay)—This will be about 20 to 30 minutes long, and will occur on Dec. 3 or 10.
5. **Final Essay**—twelve pages long (due Friday, Dec. 12), plus a three-page research proposal (due in class on Oct. 15) and bibliography (due Nov. 5). An explanation of this is further down the syllabus.

The final grade will be broken down like this:

Short paper on your reading and leading class discussion on it: 20%
 Short paper on Harley: 10%
 Midterm Essay: 10%
 Presentation of Project (Dec. 3–10): 10%
 Final essay (including proposal and bibliography): 40%
 Participation: 10%

Note: the final grades will use minuses and plusses, if necessary—that is, it is possible to get an A- or B+ (etc.) for the course. Note also that plagiarism is a very serious offense and will not be tolerated; it will result in your being forced to rewrite a paper or accept a failing grade for the assignment. Your own intellectual honesty is of the greatest importance in this class. Even graduate students have been found guilty of it. The university policies can be found at <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Assignments & Academic Calendar		
Class	Topic	Reading
27 Aug.	The Map as Metaphor	
3 Sep.	The Visual Tradition, Prehistoric and Ancient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thrower, preface and chs. 1–3 • Seed, ch. 1 • Ptolemy, Geography 1.1–1.5, 1.24 (in <i>Ptolemy's Geography</i>, trans. J. Lennart Berggren and Alexander Jones [Princeton, 2000], pp. 57-63, 84-93)
10 Sep.	Medieval and Early Modern Cartography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thrower, chs. 4 and 5 • Seed, chs. 2 and 3 • Marcia Kupfer, “Medieval World Maps: Embedded Images, Interpretive Frames,” <i>Word and Image</i> 10: 3 (1994): 262–288

17 Sep.	Making Sense of the New World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed, ch. 4 • Anthony Grafton, <i>New Worlds, Ancient Texts</i> (Cambridge, MA, 1992), pp. 12-58 • Stephen Greenblatt, <i>Marvelous Possessions</i> (Chicago, 1991), 52-85 • Nate Probasco, “Cartography as a Tool of Power: Sir Humphrey Gilbert’s 1583 Voyage to North America,” <i>Renaissance Quarterly</i> 67 (2014): 425–472
24 Sep.	No class in our usual Wednesday night slot We will make a visit to the Map Collection at UTA on Friday Sept. 19 or 26—to be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delia Cosentino, “Picturing American Cities in the Twentieth Century: Emily Edwards’ Maps of San Antonio and Mexico City,” <i>Imago Mundi</i> 65 (2013): 288–299
1 Oct.	Mapping as a Tool of Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. B. Harley, <i>The New Nature of Maps</i>, ed. Paul Laxton (Baltimore, 2002)—read the whole book, and then (after that) read J. H. Andrews’s introduction to it. • Raymond B. Craib, “Cartography and Power in the Conquest and Creation of New Spain,” <i>Latin American Research Review</i> 35 (2000): 7–36
8 Oct.	City Views and Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed, ch. 6 • Juergen Schulz, “Jacopo de’ Barbari’s View of Venice,” <i>Art Bulletin</i> 60 (1978): 423–474 • Svetlana Alpers, <i>The Art of Describing</i> (Chicago, 1983), 119-168. • Jesús Escobar, “Map as Tapestry: Science and Art in Pedro Teixeira’s 1656 Representation of Madrid,” <i>The Art Bulletin</i> 96 (2014): 50–69
15 Oct.	East and West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed, ch. 6 • Edward S. Casey, <i>Representing Place</i> (Minneapolis, 2002), chs. 9–10 (pp. 171–212) • Richard J. Smith, <i>Mapping China and Managing the World: Culture, Cartography, and Cosmology in Late Imperial Times</i> (New York: Routledge, 2013), ch. 2 (pp. 48–88)

22 Oct.	Metaphorical Cartographies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fabio Barry, "Walking on Water: Cosmic Floors in Antiquity and the Middle Ages," <i>The Art Bulletin</i> 89 (2007): 627–656 Alessandro Scafi, <i>Mapping Paradise</i> (Chicago, 2006), 11-15, 62-83 Hui-Hung Chen, "The Human Body as a Universe: Understanding Heaven by Visualization and Sensibility in Jesuit Cartography in China," <i>The Catholic Historical Review</i> 93 (2007): 517–552
29 Oct.	Midterm Essay Due	No class or reading this week; essay due by 10 am on Thurs. Oct. 30.
5 Nov.	Religion, Culture, Propaganda, and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thrower, chs. 6 and 7 Barbara E. Mundy, "Mapping the Aztec Capital: The 1524 Nuremberg Map of Tenochtitlan, Its Sources and Meanings," <i>Imago Mundi</i> 50 (1998): 11–33 Nirit Ben-Aryeh Debby, "Crusade Propaganda in Word and Image in Early Modern Italy: Niccolò Guidalotto's Panorama of Constantinople (1662)," <i>Renaissance Quarterly</i> 67 (2014): 503–543 Catherine T. Dunlop, "Mapping a New Kind of European Boundary: The Language Border Between Modern France and Germany," <i>Imago Mundi</i> 65 (2013): 253–267
12 Nov.	Issues in Modern Mapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thrower, chs. 6 and 7 Seed, chs. 7–9 Kory Olson, "Maps for a New Kind of Tourist: The First <i>Guides Michelinés France</i> (1900–1913)," <i>Imago Mundi</i> 62 (2010): 205–220 Denis Cosgrove, "Contested Global Visions: One-World, Whole-Earth, and the Apollo Space Photographs," <i>Annals of the Association of American Geographers</i> 84 (1994): 270–294
19 Nov.	The Future?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicholas Chrisman, "Full Circle: More than Just Social Implications of GIS," <i>Cartographica</i> 40 (2005): 23–35 Thérèse F. Tierney, "Positioning Locative Media: A Critical Urban Intervention," <i>Leonardo</i> 46 (2013): 253–257 Craig M. Dalton, "Sovereigns, Spooks, and Hackers: An Early History of Google Geo Services and Map Mashups," <i>Cartographica</i> 48 (2013): 261–274 Ian Muehlenhaus, "Going Viral: The Look of Online Persuasive Maps," <i>Cartographica</i> 49 (2014): 18–34
26 Nov.	Thanksgiving Holiday	

3 Dec.	Student Presentations, part 1	
10 Dec.	Student Presentations, part 2	
12 Dec.	Paper due in Professor's Office	

Final Paper

Your final project for the class will be a paper of 12 pages in one of the following two categories:

- a. A **research paper** in which you investigate a particular topic or question of interest to you, using both primary and secondary sources. This can be about a mapmaker, printer, publisher, mapmaking technique, projection system, or any other topic that you get approved.
- b. An in-depth **visual analysis** of a single map or view or a **textual analysis** on an important source or piece of writing about maps. Research will definitely be required for this as well, but much of your paper can be given over to interpretation.

Your paper will be preceded by a project proposal of about two pages, due October 15. In this proposal, you should present as clearly and as fully as possible your chosen topic for the written work. It should include your theme and your proposed method of approach. It must be satisfactory before you proceed on your paper. A preliminary bibliography will also be prepared for our class of November 5.

Course & Instructor Policies

- You can always make an appointment to meet with me if the office hours don't correspond with your schedule. I can be reached by email and will make efforts to respond in a timely manner.
- Please submit your work in a hard copy if that's what's requested. Maybe once over the course of the semester will it be OK for you to email your work in, but don't overdo it.
- Late assignments will be marked down substantially, but they are much preferable to not turning it in at all.
- Please turn off your phone and refrain from texting or computing in class.
- Class begins at 4 pm. If you must come in late, try to be as quiet as possible.
- You may have no more than two unexcused absences—beyond that, you will get a zero for your participation grade. While understanding that you are adults and have busy lives, you also have responsibilities to completing a class that you signed up for.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.
