



Course PPPE/GISC 6334.501
Workshop in Environmental and Health Policy/GIS
Professor Dohyeong Kim, Ph.D
Term Fall 2016
Meetings Monday 7-9:45pm (only when in-class meeting is scheduled)
Classroom GR 3.602

Professor's Contact Information

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Office Hours Tuesdays 1-4pm, and by appointment

General Course Information

Pre-requisites & other restrictions	Students must complete at least one of the following courses before taking this workshop course: EPPS 6313 or EPPS 7313 (for policy analysis track) or GISC 6301 or GISC 6381 (for GIS analysis track), or obtain permission of instructor.
Course Description	Students join a faculty member in a research project on environmental and health policy. Specific topics vary from semester to semester, but special emphasis will be on the applications of statistical and spatial analytic methods (e.g. GIS, spatial econometrics, decision analysis, etc.) to various real-life data in the environmental and health field. Class exercises will be completed using state-of-the-art statistics and GIS software.
Suggested Materials	Cromley, E.K. and McLafferty, S.L., <i>GIS and Public Health</i> , 2 nd Ed. (New York, NY: The Guilford Press, 2012)
Course Overview	This workshop course consists of an independent research project designed and conducted by the student. This course is designed to allow students at different stages in their graduate careers to have experience in the collection and analysis of original or secondary data in environmental and health fields. Students can choose either policy analysis or GIS track to apply relevant analytical skills to their data based on their background and interests. This workshop is not an appropriate course for students just beginning their graduate studies or unprepared to conduct independent research. Students enrolled in this workshop will conduct research which will culminate in either a manuscript ready for submission to a scholarly/professional journal or a draft thesis or dissertation proposal. Students already working on environmental and health-related thesis or dissertation projects in PPPE, GIS, Public Affairs and Sociology, or other EPPS program may conduct research on related topics with the prior permission of the instructor.
Interaction with Instructor	The course web site on eLearning (elearning.utdallas.edu) serves as a main place to download lecture notes, assignments, suggested materials, etc. All the course announcements will be posted at eLearning, along with a notification email to students. Students should interact with the instructor via emails, mandatory individual meetings, office hours and in-class discussion.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

This is the planned schedule for in-class meetings and individual meetings with instructor, along with assignment due dates. Always check the online version in eLearning for updates.

Date	In-Class Meeting	Individual Meeting	Assignments Due
August 22	Introduction to the Course Needs Assessment & Goal Setting		
August 29	Foundation Lecture: Statistical and GIS Tools for Environmental and Health Policy		
September 5	<i>Labor Day – No Class</i>		
September 12			Research Concept Note - Research topic - Research plan
September 19-23		Mandatory meeting with instructor (1) (Sign-up required)	
September 26	Proposal Presentation (15 minutes)		
October 3			Research Proposal - Research topic - Literature review - Research design
October 10-17		Mandatory meeting with instructor (2) (Sign-up required)	
October 24			Midterm Report - Background - Literature review - Research method - Preliminary results
October 31			Peer-Review Report - Evaluate other students' midterm report
November 7-14		Mandatory meeting with instructor (3) (Sign-up required)	
November 21	<i>Fall Break – No Class</i>		
November 28		Optional meeting with instructor for final presentation and paper	
December 5	Final Research Presentation (15 minutes)		
December 12			Final Research Paper - Background - Literature review - Research method - Results & Discussion

Course Rules and Policies

<p>Assignments</p>	<p>Students are expected to attend all mandatory meetings (4 in-class meetings and 3-4 individual meetings with the instructor), including two presentations in class (one for the research proposal and the other for the final research paper). Students should submit 5 written assignments via email no later than 10pm on the due date described above. The written assignments for this course include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research Concept Note (1 page): A brief one-page concept note should be prepared and submitted during the first two weeks in the semester to share a proposed research topic and research plan with the instructor. 2. Research Proposal (5-7 pages): Based on feedback from the instructor on the proposal presentation (scheduled on Sep 26th), each student should prepare and submit a written research proposal including a specific research objective, a literature review and a detailed description of research design. 3. Midterm Report (10-15 pages): Through consecutive meetings with the instructor, each student should collect and analyze the data using appropriate statistical and/or spatial analysis techniques. The midterm report should include at least some preliminary results. 4. Peer-Review Report (1-2 pages): Once the midterm reports are submitted, each student will be assigned to one of the reports written by other students, and required to submit a peer-review report on it. 5. Final Research Paper (20-25 pages including references): Based on feedback from the instructor on the final research presentation (scheduled on Dec 5th), each student should prepare and submit the final research paper including complete data analysis results and relevant interpretation and discussion. The final research paper should be written in APA format (www.apastyle.org).
<p>Assignment Rules</p>	<p>All assignments must be prepared in MS Word 2003 or 2007 format and turned in via email before the date specified. No late assignments will be accepted, except in the case where the student provides a written excuse from the appropriate university authority. The email submission of assignments should include the course name (PPPE/GISC 6334) and a brief description of the contents in the subject line. Any concern on the assignments should be notified to the instructor as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Grading Criteria</p>	<p>Course grades will be determined based on class participation and written assignments, weighted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Concept Note: 10 percent Proposal Presentation: 10 percent Research Proposal: 15 percent Midterm Report: 15 percent Peer-Review Report: 10 percent Final Research Presentation: 20 percent Final Research Paper: 20 percent
<p>Incomplete</p>	<p>An incomplete will be granted only in cases where a substantial change in life circumstances occurs that is beyond the control of the student, and only with appropriate documentation. By university policy, it can only be granted when 70 percent of the coursework has been completed at a passing level.</p>
<p>UT Dallas Policies and Procedures</p>	<p>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</p>

The descriptions and timelines in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.