

Introduction to Cartography

Code: 100738
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500241 Archaeology	FB	1	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Joan Cristian Padró García
Francesc Coll Pujol

Prerequisites

This course has no specific requirements. Students should only have a basic knowledge of using general software such as Windows, Excel and Word.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Archaeology studies past societies through their material remnants: Therefore, cartography and the use of geospatial information are very useful tools either for the initial tasks of survey and inventory and later on for interpretation, analysis and presentation of results.

In that context, the course has three specific objectives:

1. To provide basic knowledge to understand and use cartographic representations in several fundamental aspects: measurement, positioning, scale representation, cartographic objects, conceptualisation of the information, information material support (e.g., cartographic data), and products for presentation (maps). Particularly, in the context of archaeology, by focusing on the different types of maps and scales used in archaeology.
2. To provide the technical skills needed to produce cartographic data, by digital means, for the usual tasks of archaeology (survey, situation, inventory, interpretation and landscape view). This includes data capture in the field (using GPS and total station) and in the lab (by digitizing from images and other sources with geographic references), data structuring, manipulation and storage in digital formats.
3. To provide the technical skills needed to design and produce presentation maps of the types used in archaeology. This covers map conception (e.g., selecting, compiling, simplifying and adapting information to the map purpose), data symbolization and graphic desing of the document.

Competences

- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.

Learning Outcomes

1. Applying the spatial relationships on different territorial scales through the relationships between nature and society and through temporal dimension.
2. Autonomously searching, selecting and processing information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
3. Collecting data on the field by using some of the basic measurement tools (GPS, total station).
4. Conceiving and utilising cartographic representations of real phenomena.
5. Generating and organising cartographic data to solve mapping needs in Archaeology.
6. Identifying the appropriate technical solutions to the practical needs that are to be solved.
7. Identifying the theoretical concepts that provide a foundation for technical operations.
8. Interpreting maps and extracting knowledge about spatial relationships and its influence in the material and cultural processes of the societies.
9. Obtaining and organising proper data for each practical need that is to be solved.
10. Practising the different forms of management and acquisition of georeferenced spatial information as a tool of inventory, analysis and territorial interpretation and also communication of observation and spatial knowledge through maps and Earth observation imagery.
11. Producing conventional graphic documents: planimetry, topography, cartography, explanatory drawing.
12. Producing maps from digital cartographic data, by using technical knowledge compilation, symbolization and cartographic design.
13. Using software of geographical information system to produce and transform digital cartographic data and creating maps.
14. Using the main computing and data management tools, as well as the information and communication technologies in the specific field of the historical-archaeological sciences.

Content

Part I: Understanding and usage of cartographic representation (30%)

1. Aim of cartography.
2. Geodesy and geographic reference systems.
3. Cartographic projections and coordinate systems.

Part II: Digital cartographic data production (40 %)

4. Digital representation of cartographic information.
5. Methods of production, cartographic data sources.
6. Digital image processing.
7. Digitizing, structuring and transforming digital cartographic data.

Part III: Map making (30 %)

8. Cartographic compilation.
9. Cartographic symbolization.

10. Cartographic design.

Methodology

Theoretical and methodological subjects are introduced with concise lectures and are developed by the autonomous work done by the students, which includes studying specific course materials (class notes provided for all the subjects) available at UAB Virtual Campus and general readings (bibliography and web resources).

Technical abilities are acquired by a set of guided exercises done by the students in a computer lab during the teaching period or on their own.

For each subject students will do 1 or 2 guided exercises in the classroom (computer lab) at an approximate rate of one exercise per week. Additionally, students will do by themselves 4-5 exercises in the semester. Exercises done at the classroom must not be submitted and will not be evaluated. Exercises done autonomously had to be submitted and are evaluated.

Learning field data capture techniques (GPS and total station) involves two field trips in April on two Friday mornings.

All the course resources (class notes, exercises, quizzes, documents and data) are available online at UAB Virtual Campus (a Moodle based e-learning platform).

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Guided exercises at the computer lab	25	1	1, 4, 11, 12, 7, 6, 8, 9, 3, 5
Lectures on basic concepts	15	0.6	1, 4, 10, 7, 8, 14
Type: Supervised			
Data capture tasks in field trips	10	0.4	9, 3, 5
Supervised exercises at the computer lab	10	0.4	4, 11, 12, 5, 14, 13
Type: Autonomous			
Reading class notes and solving theoretical quizzes	28	1.12	4, 7, 8

Assessment

Evaluation of this course is continuous and is based on the outcome of the evaluated practical exercises (4-5 in the semester). All the exercises should be submitted in the time scheduled. Assignments not submitted in time can be submitted at the end of the semester (several days before the final exam).

All the exercises are mandatory and have to be done individually. The average of all assignment grades, jointly with the average grade of all theoretical quizzes, forms the continuous grade. Exercises can not be retaken nor re-evaluated.

Theoretical parts of the course will be evaluated continuously as well by means of a quiz at the end of each subject or group of subjects. If the average grade of all theoretical quizzes is 5 or higher, the theoretical part of the final exam does not have to be done.

The continuous grade must be validated passing a final exam at the end of the semester (first week of June). This final exam will have a theoretical part (35% of the exam grade) and a practical part (65% of the exam grade).

To pass the course students have to:

- **submit at least 80% of the evaluated exercises assigned** to have the right to attend to the final exam.
- **pass the final (or recovery) exam with a minimum grade of 5 over 10.**

Once the final (or recovery exam) is passed, the final grade of the course will be the highest grade, either the continuous grade or the exam grade, provided that the difference between them is not greater than 2 points. In that case, the exam grade will be the final grade.

RECOVERY: Students that do not pass the final exam will have the right to do a recovery exam two weeks later, in the date scheduled by the school. Requirements for attending to the recovery exam are the same for attending to the final exam (80% of the evaluated exercises submitted).

Plagiarism or copying in any activity will deserve a grade of 0 in this activity and could not be recovered. In case of repeated offence all the course grade will be FAIL. It is considered "copy" a work that reproduces all or a substantial part of another student's work. It is considered "Plagiarism" to present all or part of an author's published work without citation of the original sources, either analogic (e.g., paper) or digital. See more information over plagiarism at http://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/unit_20/sot_2_01.html.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Autonomous exercises and theoretical quizzes	50	60	2.4	1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 10, 7, 6, 8, 9, 3, 5, 14, 13
Final exam	50	2	0.08	1, 2, 4, 11, 12, 10, 7, 6, 8, 9, 3, 5, 14, 13

Bibliography

General textbooks of cartography

Barber, P. (2006) *El gran libro de los mapas* (Spanish edition). Barcelona: Paidós.

Dent, B.; Torguson, J. and Hodler, T. (2008) *Cartography: Thematic Map Design*. 6th edition. Boston: WCB / McGrawHill.

Joly, F. (1988) *La cartografía* (Spanish edition). Vilassar de Mar (Barcelona): OikosTau.

Nunes, J. (2012). *Diccionari terminològic de sistemes d'informació geogràfica*. Barcelona: Enciclopèdia Catalana i Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya, 551 pp.

Consultable a http://www.termcat.cat/ca/Diccionaris_En_Linia/197

Rabella, J.M., Panareda, J.M., Ramazzini, G. (2011). *Diccionari terminològic de cartografia*. Barcelona: Enciclopèdia Catalana i Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya, 417 pp.

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Robinson, A.H.; Morrison, J.L.; Muehrcke, P.C.; Kimerling, A.J. and Guptill, S.C. (1995) *Elements of Cartography*. 6th edition. New York: John Wiley and Sons.

Robinson, A.H.; Morrison, J.L.; Muehrcke, P.C. and Kimerling, A.J. (1987) *Elementos de cartografía* (Spanish edition of the 5th English edition). Barcelona: Ediciones Omega.

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Chevallier, R. (2000) *Lecture du temps dans l'espace: topographie archéologique et historique*. Paris: Picard.

Howard, P. (2006) *Archaeological surveying and mapping: recording and depicting the landscape*. New York: Routledge.

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Conolly, J. and Lake, M. (2006). *Geographical Information Systems in Archaeology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Conolly, J. and Lake, M. (2010) *Sistemas de información geográfica aplicados a la arqueología*. (Spanish edition). Barcelona: Edicions Bellaterra.

Wheatley, D. and Gillings, M. (2002) *Spatial technology and archaeology*. London: Taylor & Francis.