

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Science, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, CRN # 30406,**  
**GEOG186 Field Methods in Geography, Spring 2022**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Kerry Rohrmeier, PhD
Office Location:	WSQ 113A (Geospatial Lab Office)
Telephone:	(408) 924-5475, but email yields a faster response
Email:	<a href="mailto:kerry.rohrmeier@sjsu.edu">kerry.rohrmeier@sjsu.edu</a>
Office Hours:	Mondays 11:30am – 1:30 pm on Zoom at and by appointment <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81292419351">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81292419351</a>
Class Days/Time:	Mondays 4:30-7:15 pm and on Zoom at <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87964153171">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87964153171</a>
Classroom:	WSQ 113

**Course Format**

This is an in-person course format. Though I recognize these are unusual times when the term is to begin fully online, and that once we return to campus there will be circumstances when student(s) need to quarantine or be beyond the commute distance to San Jose. In this case using Zoom to attend the course is fine. During our designated meeting time we will engage through active learning exercises. In addition, there will be asynchronous assignments that can be worked on independently. All course resources are found on the [Canvas](#) webpage using your 9-digit SJSU ID and password. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas for the latest information and communication.

**Course Description**

From the SJSU catalog: introduction to field methods in physical and human geography. Field trips, archival research, and student projects provide practical and applied skills and an informed view of the relationships between people and their environments. 3 units.

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1. Learn proper methods for data collection, analysis, and visualization.

CLO 2. Conduct GIS, design, and cartography techniques

CLO 3. Create a beautiful and informative cartographic visualization for inclusion in a cultural atlas

**Required Texts/Readings**

A textbook is not required for this course. Weekly readings and media content will be posted to Canvas modules.

**Supplementary References**

- *Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas*
- Meandering Minneapolis <https://www.flipsnack.com/macalester/meanderingminneapolis/full-view.html>
- Curious City St Paul <https://www.flipsnack.com/macalester/curious-city-in-out-above-beyond-st-paul/full-view.html>

## Technology Requirements

ArcGIS Online 'AGOL' is required for the course. ArcPro Desktop software is also encouraged. You can use your SJSU sign on at <https://sjsugis.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities. This course begins with remedial mapping practice using ArcGIS Online tools and then advances skills through development of a cultural atlas.

- 1) **Active Participation** in this course is mandatory and is especially important for once weekly courses. Many flexible options for attending are provided (in person, on Zoom, through asynchronous collaborative tools, and at events. Graduate students will contribute to course in an advisory capacity. Based on their individual strengths each enrolled graduate student will offer at least one office hour during the semester as an option for fellow students to seek guidance using GIS tools, data analysis, writing, and cartography. Undergraduate students are in return expected to participate in these office hours to improve upon their projects.
- 2) **Mosaic Atlas** assignments will re/familiarize students with spatial data collection and use, data organization and management, and with webmap and story map visualization creation. Data collected can be applied to the Mosaic Atlas project for San Francisco communities.
  - 3) After demonstrating abilities using data students will be challenged to create a **Culture Map** showcasing our collective communities that are spatial distributed and challenged due to covid-19. Consider what makes your community special? How does this place feel, sound, smell? These are the kinds of experiences that can be communicated in a cultural atlas. This semester you will work to conceptualize, design, and create contributions that result in a class cultural atlas. Students will work individually and as a team create an atlas from inception to digital publication. Each student will map their current location by choosing an interesting and relevant geographic topic, designing a two-page layout, gathering secondary and primary field data, and working through the design to production process. Each student's research and cartographic visualization is a two-page spread in the cumulative Cultural Atlas. The course lectures and exercises build upon each other to tell well research stories.

## Final

For your final you will write a reflection essay considering your experience with this entire course. Please answer all 7 prompts; an appropriate length for each response is 200 words.

1. How do you feel about yourself as a cartographer? What are your strengths as a storyteller? What were your biggest areas of improvement?
2. What was the most useful or meaningful lesson you gained from this course? What was the most unexpected lesson during this term? How do these lessons contribute to your education?
3. What were some of the most interesting discoveries you made while working on this project? About your topic? About yourself? About others?
4. What do you wish you had known going into this course? What would you do differently if you were to approach the same project again?

5. How has the experience of creating and publishing a cultural atlas contributed to your training as a geographer? What lessons, skills or concepts will you take with you to your next job? In what area would you like to continue to strengthen your knowledge and techniques?
6. What were some things classmates or advisors did to help me overcome obstacles? How did I help others during this process?
7. In what ways did remote learning and COVID 19 influence your engagement with this course? Was the spread you produced like the one you envisioned? Did you participate more because you less commute time, or did you find you were more distracted and participated less outside the classroom?

## Grading Information

This is a Credit/No Credit course. All students have the right, within a reasonable timeframe, to know their academic scores, to review their graded work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades. In keeping with this policy, and to help ensure that grading is responsive, all assignments are due as stated on the Course Schedule and Canvas. Please save all your work until after you have checked your final course grade. Then if you have questions about your final grade, you can bring in past work, and if necessary, corrections can be made.

	<b>Points Possible</b>
Participation	70
15 Assignments	400
Final	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>

## Classroom Protocol

- Attendance is mandatory and on-time online arrival is polite practice.
- All preparatory readings and assignments must be completed prior to class.
- Plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and will merit a 0 for the assignment.
- This course involves working together, so civility and courteousness are always expected. While we may not agree with other perspectives or approaches stated, respect is mandatory.

## University Policies

### General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

### Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at

<http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - A written request granting permission may be submitted in writing for the whole semester or on a class-by-class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

## GEOG186 Spring 2022 Course Schedule

This subject to change with fair notice, please check Canvas regularly for course announcements.

### Course Schedule

Date	Format	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1/31	On Zoom	Syllabus Course Format Mosaic America + Culture Map <a href="#">Assignment 1: About the Author</a>
2/7	On Zoom	Guest Speakers: Mosaic America & Jan English-Lueck <a href="#">Assignment 2: Reflection Essay</a>
2/14	In person or join on Zoom *Judi Office Hour for GIS	Judi AAG Practice Presentation <a href="#">Assignment 3: San Francisco Mosaic Mapsheet Due</a>
2/21	In person or join on Zoom *Thu My Office Hour – Data Analysis	Tiffany AAG Practice Presentation <a href="#">Assignment 4: San Francisco AGOL Map Due</a>
2/28	Asynchronous on Canvas *Adam Office Hour on Writing	<i>Stream A Year in the Field</i> on Kanopy <a href="#">Assignment 5: Reflection essay</a>
3/7	In person or join on Zoom	ArcGIS Tour Explorer Exercise <a href="#">Assignment 6: San Francisco Story Map Due</a>
3/14	In person or join on Zoom	<a href="#">Assignment 7: Culture Map Topic + Data Selection</a>
3/21	Event	Attend the SAVi Speaker Event. Details TBA <a href="#">Assignment 8: Culture Map Proposal &amp; Research Plan</a>
3/28	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
4/4	In person or join on Zoom	<a href="#">Assignment 9: Culture Map Literature Review</a>
4/11	In person or join on Zoom	<a href="#">Assignment 10: Culture Map Sketch &amp; Mood Board</a>
4/18	Asynchronous on Canvas	Conduct your Culture Map fieldwork! <i>Stream Henri Glassie: Field Work</i> on Kanopy <a href="#">Assignment 11: Reflection essay</a>
4/25	In person or join on Zoom	Thu-My Masters Project Presentation <a href="#">Assignment 12: Culture Map Production Methodology</a>
5/2	Event *Jaispa Office Hour on Map Content *Tiffany Office Hour Cartography	Attend and participate in the Mosaic Atlas Colloquium <a href="#">Assignment 13: Submit Culture Map Draft Visualization and Evaluation</a>
5/9	Event	NUMU Muwekma Cultural Map Event Tiffany Office Hour - Cartography

Date	Format	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Assignment 14: Map Critique and Reflection
5/16	In person or join on Zoom	Assignment 15: Submit and Present Final Culture Map Publication
Final 5/23	2:45-5:00pm on Zoom	Assignment 15: Final Essay Due Cultural Atlas Reveal Celebration