

Analytical and Computer Cartography

GEPL 4520-5520

James Coss

Feb 5, 2004

Assignment 4

- Assignment:** Create a general reference map using a computer software you download from the internet. The map will be of the campus. You will need to find a software suitable for this task. You will also need to find a suitable data source.
- Due:** Feb 12, 2004
- Where:** Hand in printed map in class, and email Jpeg of map to james.coss@utoledo.edu
- Points:** 20
- Purpose:** Making maps should be independent of a specific tools. GIS software are not always the best choice for making maps. The tools found in drawing software costing much less than GIS software are often much better at creating a map. Also your employer or your research post many not have software you are familiar with, or any GIS software at all. In this case knowing that you can make a map without a specific GIS software should be empowering.
- Tools:** Any computer will do. You will be introduced to this assignment on the IBM laptops, however the point of this lesson is independence from specific software or hardware. You will need to be able to load software and run it, I have checked the geography lab and I have been able to load software. You will need to find a software package on the internet. Google search for freeware or shareware vector drawing software should yield plenty of results. Don't be afraid to look in www.download.com. I would suggest you download a demo or shareware for free use in n days. If you like the software purchase it, however you won't be required to use it past this lesson.
- Grading Points:** All components of a good map present N. Arrow, Scale neat line ect..
Accuracy
completeness of region.
Explanation of software used and source data in caption
Hand in a paper and email and electronic version to me.
- Corpus:** Computers make mapping very much easier than doing so by hand. You need to make another map of the campus. I would hope that you will observe just how much the computer helps you in completing this task as compared to hand drawing the campus. However, the computer also bring with it a level of complexity that can hamper your efforts as much as help. Good and bad software exist as an inexpensive resource called shareware. You will locate a vector drawing shareware of your choice that will allow you to map the campus. The software I chose allowed me to place an image in the background. I found an aerial photo of the campus, on the web, and placed it in the background of my map. I then used the drawing tools to complete the map. It took me about 4 minutes to find and download and start making a map. The goal of this project is to make you a computer cartographer independent of GIS. As always strict adherence to deadline will be required.