

GEPL 4500/5500 – Student Term Project and Poster Presentation

Poster Presentation: Wednesday, May 5, 2:45 – 4:45 pm

Term Paper: Due at poster presentation!!!!

Purpose: Remotely sensed data has become a central part of many research projects that address social and environmental problems. The importance of monitoring using remote sensing is highlighted by the University's investment into the remote sensing program in the Department of Geography and Planning. More and more research projects that involve a spatial context are using remotely sensed data in one form or another. The purpose of the term project in this class is to expose you to the processing that is needed in remote sensing applications and to the image processing software.

For your project, you can study anything from land surface classification, to the health of swamps, to drought damage, to damage left by Hurricane Mitch in Central America. It is important, however, that you choose a problem that can be addressed in the short time of this semester and that is appropriate for a 4 credit hour class. Your project will need to include the manipulation of satellite imagery. It is not enough to take jpg's off of the internet to show something. For this project you will need to define a research problem, determine the data that will address the problem, gather the data, possibly preprocess the imagery through georectification and channel calibration and then develop an algorithm to solve your problem.

Project Updates: Throughout the semester we will have 3 project updates. On these days, I would like you to prepare a 10 minute presentation. The presentation should show your progress and bring up questions that you have. The purpose of the updates is to keep your project on track. It will give the rest of the students in the class and myself an opportunity to see what your project is about and it will also give us the opportunity to offer suggestions to any problems that you may be having. The project updates will be considered into your grade. I will grade you on your preparedness and on your organization.

Project Updates:

- Feb. 16 – Define problem and satellite data to be used.
- March 16 – Discuss processing of your data, expected results
- April 13 – Discuss your results and loose ends that need to be tied up before your poster presentation.

The Poster: The posters that you produce should be of high quality and be approximately 3 feet by 5 feet. The Department of Geography and Planning has a large format printer in the GISAG Lab that you may use to make your poster. Make sure that the text is large enough so that it can be read from about ten feet away. Include on the poster all of the sections that you would include in a term paper of the same project. For example, you will need an abstract, an introduction in which you define the problem, a description of the data you used, methodology, results from the study and a conclusions or a future directions section. **If you plan to use the GISAG printer, you will need to finish your poster at least 1 week early so you will have time to do the printing. It takes up to 4 hours to print one poster.**

The Webpage: I would like you to make a webpage of your project. In the past, students have written their projects into term papers. With the increasingly digital age that we live in, the internet has become the primary form of communication. You need to give some thought to your webpage design. I will not give an instructions on webpage development. I would suggest that you look on the internet or into the software tools available to you to make the webpage. Once made, you will be able to use it to communicate your project's results to prospective employers.