Course Instructor: George Bevan
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Office: Mac-Corry D130

Contact Time:
Monday 8:30-10:00, Thursday 10-11:30
(Office Hours: Monday 10-11:30 and by appointment)

Format: Lectures (2 x 1.5 hours)
Class Assessment: Two in-class tests (40%), Short Paper (20%), Final Research Paper (40%)

COURSE OVERVIEW
This course applies modern principles of Critical Cartography to the development of maps from prehistory to the present. Students will come to understand not only the basic principles of map-making throughout history, the evolution of the map in response to the needs of navigation and property ownership, and the way in which maps generally reflect the world-view of the societies that produced them, but also how maps themselves can play a role in shaping our perceptions of social, political, military, and economic realities. Finally we will consider whether we are truly in a “Post-Map Era” with the advent of services like Google Earth, or whether the inherited construct of the map continues to pervade our view of the world, whether or not we are aware of it.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. To parse critically maps from antiquity to the modern period
2. Identify the formal features of maps, as well as the aesthetic choices of the map-maker
3. Situate maps using secondary literature within the social, economic and military context of their time of production
4. Write critically in essay form about maps

COURSE TOPICS

COURSE READINGS