

3) Required Course Resources.

1. Textbook: [Getting to Know ArcGIS Pro, 2nd Edition](#)
Esri Press, ISBN: 978-1589485372, 2019, 512 pages.
Order / pre-order ASAP and pay for the 2-day shipping.
Do NOT buy the 1st Edition to save \$\$\$ (trust me).
2. USB flash drive or external USB hard disk dedicated just for this class of 32 GB or greater to save your data, maps, projects, and assignments.
3. Notebook and standard 3-ring binder (to organize all the handouts).

4) Course Logistics – The Big Picture.

Let's be honest: learning GIS and ArcGIS Pro is difficult and 'learning-by-doing' is the most efficient teaching and learning strategy. We will create a cooperative learning environment by supporting each other in order to understand concepts and to solve problems. However, you are always responsible to submit your own original work by the assigned due dates.

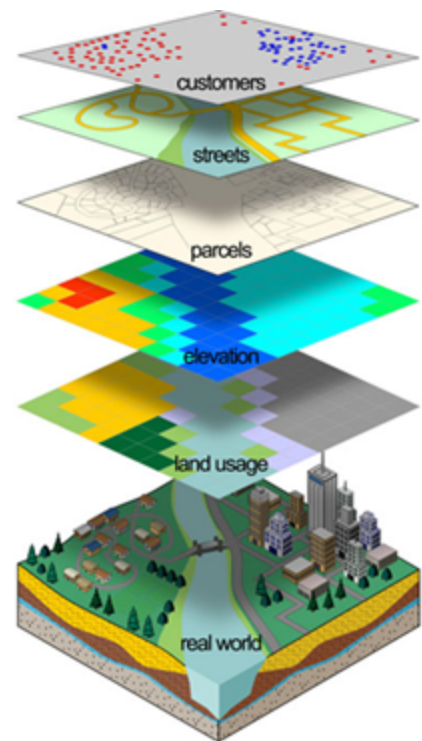
I expect a high level of individual effort and engagement. What you get out of this class is a function of the amount of effort you put in. This is not a class where you can sit back and wait for 'learning to happen'. Instead, you have to consistently and actively engage with the tasks, questions, assignments/exercises, and GIS projects in order to (a) learn to use the GIS software and (b) to understand what a GIS can do for you.

You will spend significant additional time each week outside of class practicing with the software and working on our tutorials, exercises, homework assignments, and GIS projects.

5) Course Logistics – Details.

Each week is arranged around important GIS concepts (see course schedule below). There will be usually a short introduction lecture, a review of the previous week's topics and assignments (as needed), and in-class projects and exercises to provide additional information, practice, and context. You will need to work through the assigned chapters in your textbook on your own time.

- It is your responsibility to complete the assignments and projects by the assigned due dates.
- There is no time allotted during class meetings to work on GIS projects and homework assignments.



- We meet only twice a week! Missing class (for any reason) leaves you with a considerable gap in your learning process.

This is a 'scaffold' course where each week builds the knowledge you need for the next week and it is critical to keep-up with the weekly course material. You cannot 'skip' a weekly assignment in this course! This is a high-powered, difficult, and time-consuming elective course with complex content that requires a substantial amount of work to be successful! This is not an easy course to fill-out your schedule.

- Expect about 4 to 6 hours of work each week outside of class (on-average).
- Attendance is mandatory and missing class unexcused is unacceptable.
- If you have to miss class, you have to inform me beforehand.
- The required resources and due dates are mandatory.
- Please be on time and don't leave before the end of class.
- No make-up assignments or extra-credit work.

6) GIS Projects.

The three GIS Projects are designed to practice important aspects of GIS and geospatial analysis using a problem-solving approach and real-world examples.

1. GIS Project 1: Lying with Maps.
2. GIS Project 2: Land use change in Massachusetts.
3. GIS Project 3: Geospatial Analysis

7) Assessment.

Your final course grade is a function of your performance throughout the entire semester and combines the grades from the weekly assignments, the two tests, and the three GIS Projects.

Weekly Assignments	35 percent of final grade
Midterm Exam	10 percent of final grade
Final Exam	10 percent of final grade
3 GIS Projects	45 percent of final grade

- You will receive instructions, project descriptions, and criteria for success. Plus, you can always ask me for clarification or additional support.
- The assigned due dates are mandatory and critical for your success. 10 point deduction for each late day.
- Grade Conversion: A = 100-94, A- = 93-90, B+ = 89-87, B = 86-83, B- = 82-80, C+ = 79-77, C = 76-73, C- = 72-70, D+ = 69-67, D = 66-60, F = 59-0. I will not change the cutoffs, so you are assured the grade associated with these percentages.

If you are concerned about your grades or performance in the course – please talk to me. Please allow at least one week for grades to be ready. No makeups unless you are experiencing a documented emergency. No extra-credit work, but you are welcome to make-up missed work for partial credit (within reason) - consult with me as needed.

8) Academic Honesty.

The University *Academic Honesty Policy* can be found [here](#). Students are expected to do their own work. Plagiarism and cheating are inexcusable. Any instance of plagiarism or cheating will result in no credit for the assignment or failure of the course. The *University Classroom Student Conduct Policy* can be found [here](#).

9) Learning Accommodations.

Your success in this class is important to me. We will all need accommodations because we all learn differently. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or exclude you, please let me know as soon as possible. Together we'll develop strategies to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. I encourage you to visit the Office of Disability Services to determine how you could improve your learning as well. If you need official accommodations, you have a right to have these met. There are also a range of resources on campus, including the Writing Center, Tutoring Center, and Academic Advising Center.

It is the policy of Westfield State University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with the Banacos Academic Center, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The procedures for registering your need for reasonable accommodations for disabilities can be discussed with staff at the Banacos Academic Center. Please write to banacos@westfield.ma.edu.

10) Course Schedule.

Week	Date	Topic
Week 1	1/23 (We)	What is GIS?
Week 2	1/28, 1/30	GIS Mapping 1
Week 3	2/4, 2/6	GIS Mapping 2
Week 4	2/11, 2/13	GIS Mapping 3
Week 5	2/19, 2/20	GIS Mapping 4
Week 6	2/25, 2/27	GIS Mapping 5
Week 7	3/4, 3/6	GIS Mapping 6, Lying with Maps Project
Week 8		Spring Break
Week 9	3/18, 3/20	GIS Data 1, Midterm Exam
Week 10	3/25, 3/27	GIS Data 2
Week 11	4/1, 4/3	GIS Data 3, Land Use Change in MA Project
Week 12	4/8, 4/10	GIS Analysis 1
Week 13	4/17	GIS Analysis 2
Week 14	4/22, 4/24	GIS Analysis 3
Week 15	4/29, 5/1	GIS Analysis 4, Geospatial Analysis Project
Week 16	5/6 5/10	Semester Review Final Exam (12:20 - 14:20)

Adjustments to the course schedule, requirements, assessment, and number/types/topics of the activities, assignments, exams, and projects may be necessary to account for situations and circumstances that arise over the course of the semester.

Please note: Any student may request an exception to the class rules, restrictions or requirements. Please set a time to meet with me during my office hours or send me an Email so that we can discuss your concerns and reasons.