GEOG 621 is the second course in the three-course sequence that is designed for geography graduate students entering our program. GEOG 612 picks up where GEOG 611 left off, focusing on issues and ideas that have shaped the development of the discipline of geography in the United States over the past sixty years. The course is also designed to further your efforts to think about and develop a workable thesis topic.

There will be regular readings for most classes. In addition, for GEOG 612 you will put together an annotated bibliography related to areas of developing research interest and you will draft second-round research questions.

Schedule of Classes

Jan. 6   Introduction to the class
         The wake of the Quantitative Revolution
         Reading:  Morrill, R.L., 1984, Recollections of the Quantitative Revolution’s Early Years: The University of Washington 1955-65
                   Pattison, W.D., 1964 (1990), The Four Traditions of Geography

Jan. 8   Cartography and the birth of GIS
         Reading:  Edney, M. H., 2005, Putting “Cartography” into the History of Cartography

Jan. 13  Physical geography’s initial embrace of systems, process approaches, and environmental change
         Reading:  Thornthwaite, C.W., 1961. The task ahead
                   Gavin, D., 2012, Biogeography (chapter in Geography for the 21st Century)
                   Rhoads, B. L., 2004, Whither Physical Geography

Jan. 15  Challenges to positivism in the 1970s: Humanistic and structuralist approaches
         Reading:  Harris, R. 1971, Theory and Synthesis in Historical Geography
                   Tuan, Yi-Fu.1974 (1979), Space and Place: Humanistic Perspective
Harvey, D., 1984, On the History and Present Condition of Geography
Jackson, P. and Smith, S. J., 1984, Exploring Social Geography, introduction

Jan. 20  No Class – MLK Day

Jan. 22  Confronting the structure-agency polarity in human geography
  Reading: Gregson, N., 1986, Duality and Dualism: The Case of Structuration and Time Geography
  Sayer, A., 1985, Realism and Geography, in Johnston, The Future of Geography

Jan. 27  Physical geography in the 1970s and 1980s
  Reading: Marcus, M. W. 1979. Coming Full Circle: Physical Geography in the Twentieth Century
  Kennedy, B. A., 1992, Hutton to Horton: Views of Sequence, Progression and Equilibrium in Geomorphology

Jan. 29  Feminism and its impacts
  Reading: McDowell, L. and Massey, D., 1984., A Woman’s Place?
  Bondi, L. and Davidson, J., 2005, Situating Gender
  Hanson, S., 2004, Who are We? An Important Question for Geography’s Future

Feb. 3  Paradigms and paradigm shifts in physical geography in the late 20th century
  Hirschboeck, K. K., 1999, A Room With a View: Some Geographic Perspectives on Dilettantism, Cross-Training, and Scale in Hydrology
  Malanson, G., 1999, Considering Complexity
  Phillips, J. D., 1999, Methodology, Scale, and the Field of Dreams

Feb. 5  The post-modern turn in human geography
  Reading: Gregory, D., 1989, Areal Differentiation and Post-Modern Human Geography
  Cloke, P., C. Philo, and D. Sadler, The Differences of Postmodern Human Geography
Sayer, A., 1993, Postmodernist Thought in Geography: A Realist View

Feb. 10  The resurgence of physical geography: A personal perspective (Andrew Marcus)
Sack, D. 2004. Experiences and Viewpoints of Selected Women Geomorphologists from the Mid-20th Century

Feb. 12  Shifting themes in human geography at the turn of the 21st century
Reading: Watts, M., 1983, Hazards and Crisis
Jones, M., 2008, Phase Space: Geography, Relational Thinking, and Beyond
Cox, K. R. 2005, From Marxist Geography to Critical Geography and Back Again

Feb. 17  Shifting themes in physical geography at the turn of the 21st century
Reading: McDowell, P., 2012, Geomorphology in the Late Twentieth Century
Phillips, J. D., 2007. The Perfect Landscape
Fonstad, M. & Marcus, W. A., 2003, Self-Organized Criticality in Riverbank Systems

Feb. 19  Crossing theoretical and methodological divides
Reading: Wainwright, J. and J. D. A. Millington, Mind, the Gap in Landscape-Evolution Modelling
Kwan, M-P., 2004, Beyond Difference: From Canonical Geography to Hybrid Geographies

Feb. 24  Shifting concerns in cartography, GIScience, and geographic visualization (Chris Bone)
technologies -- emerging questions and linkages with GIScience research.

**Feb. 26**  Challenges to bridging the human-environment divide (Peter Walker)

Reading: Thinking Across the Divide: Perspectives on the Conversations between Physical and Human Geography, S. Harrison et al., 2004

Wainwright, J., 2010, Climate Change, Capitalism, and the Challenge of Transdisciplinarity

Demeritt, D., 2009, Geography and the Promise of Integrative Environmental Research

**Annotated bibliographies due on Feb. 26**

**Mar. 3**  Approaches to working across different topical specialties

Reading: Marston, R. A., 2008, Land, Life, and Environmental Change in Mountains

Harden, C. P., 2012, Framing and Reframing Questions of Human-Environment Interactions

Swyngedouw, E., 2004, Scaled Geographies: Nature, Place, and the Politics of Scale

**Mar. 5**  Where geography is headed as a field of inquiry

Reading: Sheppard, E., 2004, Practicing Geography


Each student to select one strategic directions question from NRC, 2010, *Understanding the Changing Planet*, Part II

**Second-round research questions due on Mar. 5**

**Mar. 10**  Where geography is headed institutionally

Reading: Making the Case for Geography, V. Lawson and A. Murphy, 2007

Enhancing Geography’s Role in Public Debate, A. Murphy, 2006


**Mar. 12**  Discussion of second-round research questions