

Project Proposal, Milestone #1

Geog 487, Spring 2009

Due Feb 19

For your project proposal you will need to have selected a topic, researched the data, chosen a question or set of questions, and a identified a set of analyses. Your proposal should include:

1. Introduction

General description of your study site(s), introduction to your topic (why is it important?), and information on any relevant previously conducted studies.

2. Objectives

What are your guiding questions or hypotheses? What are your expected results?

3. Data

What spatial data, attribute data, or other information will you use? What format are the data in? Will you collect any of your own data? How will you organize your geodatabase? How will you get your data layers into ArcGIS for analysis? Here you should discuss such issues as data input (e.g., digitizing), projection issues, scale, extent, and georeferencing.

4. Analysis

What type(s) of spatial and other statistical analysis will you conduct to achieve your objectives? What attributes in your data are important for your analysis?

5. Preliminary Flowchart

Draw a flow chart of your analysis either by hand or using a software application, such as Powerpoint, Visio or Illustrator. All GIS layers should be symbolized with boxes and operations/functions should be symbolized with circles. Arrows should be used to connect layers to operations, and then to outputs. Your flowchart will probably change and be refined as you work through your project; however, starting your flowchart early will help you 1) design your analytical approach, 2) identify missing data or operations, 3) seek help for steps that are unclear or difficult to resolve, 4) have a road map of where you are going, and 5) help with time management.

6. References

List at least 4 citations from scientific papers and published books. Maximum of 2 webpage references.

There is no minimum or maximum page limit for your proposal as long as you address all the points above. However, do try to be clear and concise. I will not give you extra points for unnecessary wordiness and meaningless text. You may include graphics if they help illustrate your points.