

**Civil Engineering 899 (CE 899) / Geography 899 (GEOG 899)**  
**Interdepartmental Seminar – Public Participation in GIS**  
**Fall Quarter 2007**

*Course Description.* CE899 (call no. 22404-9) /GEOG 899 (call no. 22405-4). 2 credits.

This 2-credit seminar will feature online presentations by scholars from the U.S. and Europe who will be exploring the potential of geospatial technologies to facilitate community involvement in decision-making. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) and the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS). Faculty members and students at other WUN and UCGIS institutions have also been invited to participate in this on-line seminar.

*Instructor:* Dr. Carolyn J. Merry  
Professor and Chair  
Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering & Geodetic Science  
414A Bolz Hall, 2036 Neil Ave. – 470 Hitchcock Hall, 2070 Neil Ave.  
phone: 614-292-3455  
e-mail: merry.1@osu.edu  
class website: <http://hcgl.eng.ohio-state.edu/~ceg899/>

*Office Hours:* Monday, Wednesday: 3:30-4:30 P.M. Also, appointments can be scheduled.

*Objectives of Course:* The course will feature online presentations by scholars from the U.S. and Europe who will be exploring the potential of geospatial technologies to facilitate community involvement in decision-making. A weekly discussion of each topic will be a part of the class.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate level standing or written permission of instructor.

*Presentation Schedule:* The seminars are at 1600 UK time (10:00 AM DST), initially BST then GMT. However, with the time zone change, we will normally view the archived recordings. Seminars to be presented include the following:

*Seminar Topics – Schedule of Activities*

<i>#</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
	Mon, Sep 24	Read Sieber (2006) article		
	Monday, October 1	Discuss the Sieber (2006) article		2-pg review – Oct 5
	Monday, October 8	Discuss the Carver (2001) article		2-pg review – Oct 12
	Mon, Oct 15	No class		
1	Wednesday, October 17	PPGIS: Who are the “public” and what are they “participating” in?	Robin Smith (Sheffield) & Richard Kingston (Manchester)	
	Monday, October 22	Discuss Session 1		2-pg review – October 26
2	Wednesday October 24	Designing participatory GIS/SDSS – read Jankowski (2006)	Piotr Jankowski (San Diego State University)	
	Mon, Oct 29	No class		
	Monday, November 5	Discuss Session 2		2-pg review – Nov 9
3	Wednesday 7 November	Unpacking the complexities of PPGIS – read Ghosh (2007)	Rina Ghose (University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee)	
	Monday, November 12	Discuss Session 3		2-pg review – Nov 16
4	Wednesday November 14	Critical GIS: methods for exploring PGIS and PPGIS use – read Elwood (2006)	Sarah Elwood (University of Washington)	
	Monday, November 19	Discuss Session 4		2-pg review – Nov 21
	Mon, Nov 26	No class		
5	Wednesday November 28	Quantifying the qualitative: capturing environmental perception in space/place problems – read Carver (2001)	Steve Carver (Leeds University)	
	Monday, December 3	Discuss Session 5		2-pg review – Dec 7
6	Wednesday December 5	Reflections on and directions for PPGIS research	Tim Nyerges (University of Washington)	2-pg review – Dec 7

*Requirements of the class:* Students are expected to attend a weekly class to discuss assigned readings and the six desktop video presentations. Class will be held from 4:30-5:18 P.M. on Mondays in Bolz 420.

Grading is as follows:

- 40% – Discussion during class
- 30% – Research paper reviews
- 30% – Seminar topic reviews

Specific activities will be to:

- Participate in six live desktop video presentations and discussions hosted by the Worldwide Universities Network (9 hrs total – up to 90 minutes per session). Students unable to participate in live presentations may view archived recordings. Provide a two-page review of each presentation. (18 hrs total)
- Read and identify key points of five assigned research articles. Provide a two-page review of each research article. (15 hrs total)

*Equipment requirements:* High-speed internet access, headset with microphone, see <http://www.wun.ac.uk/ggisa/seminars.html>.

*Reading list:*

Session 1: Sieber, Renee (2006) Public Participation Geographic Information Systems: A Literature Review and Framework. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 96(3), 491–507.

Session 2: Jankowski, Piotr , Steven Robischon, David Tuthill, Timothy Nyerges, Kevin Ramsey (2006) Design Considerations and Evaluation of a Collaborative, Spatio-Temporal Decision Support System. *Transactions in GIS* 10(3), 335-354.

Session 3: Ghose, Rina (2007) Politics of Scale and Networks of Association in Public Participation GIS. *Environment and Planning A* 39(8), 1961-1980.

Session 4: Elwood, Sarah (2006) Critical Issues in Participatory GIS: Deconstructions, Reconstructions, and New Research Directions. *Transactions in GIS* 10(5), 693–708.

Session 5: Carver, Steve (2001) Participation and Geographic Information: a Position Paper. Available at <http://www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/papers/01-3/01-3.pdf>