Cadastral Information Systems Design GSEN 6381  
Department of Computing Sciences  
SPRING 2019

A. **COURSE INFORMATION**

   Course number/section: GSEN 6381.W01  
   Class meeting time: Online  
   Class location: Online  
   Course Website: https://bb9.tamucc.edu/

B. **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

   Instructor: Professor Gary Jeffress RPLS  
   Office location: CBI 110  
   Office hours: Monday 11:00 – 12 noon, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 AM – 12 noon  
   Telephone: 361-825-2720  
   e-mail: gary.jeffress@tamucc.edu  
   Appointments: by phone or email

C. **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

   The evolution of European cadastral systems and land records traditions and alternatives reviewed; goals and purposes of land tenure systems with attention to social, political, legal, economic, organizational, technical issues examined; U.S. modernization efforts and problems of developing countries explored.

   **Extended Course Description**
   Participants will explore the opportunities to act as consultants to implement land administration reform and to research and design a strategy to undertake such a consultancy.

D. **PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES**

   Prerequisites  
   None.

   Co-requisites  
   None.

E. **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES**

   **Required Textbook(s)**

   Access to the Internet is required.

   **Optional Textbook(s) or Other References**
   Will be provided by instructor.
F. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

Assessment is a process used by instructors to help improve learning. Assessment is essential for effective learning because it provides feedback to both students and instructors. A critical step in this process is making clear the course’s student learning outcomes that describe what students are expected to learn to be successful in the course. The student learning outcomes for this course are listed below. By collecting data and sharing it with students on how well they are accomplishing these learning outcomes students can more efficiently and effectively focus their learning efforts. This information can also help instructors identify challenging areas for students and adjust their teaching approach to facilitate learning.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the principles of land ownership recording systems.
2. Familiarize with the concepts of land administration, conveyancing, and real estate markets.
3. Be familiar with the modern cadastral systems.
4. Understand the challenges of implementing cadastral systems in developing countries.

G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Online lectures and discussions will narrate the material for this course.

H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of FINAL GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Assignment Report 1</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Assignment Report 2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YouTube Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100</td>
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J. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE (BY DAY OR WEEK)</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER(S)</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Topic 1 INTRODUCTION: Overview of course objectives and requirements. Definitions. History of cadastral systems.</td>
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<td>2-3</td>
<td>Topic 2 PRINCIPLES OF CADASTRAL SYSTEMS: Examples of cadastral systems presented. The role of the Surveying Profession in the cadastre.</td>
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<td>3-4</td>
<td>Topic 3 CADASTRAL SYSTEMS AND THE LAW: Examine the relationship between the legal system and the cadastral system. Examples from Texas and Australia.</td>
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<td>4-5</td>
<td>Topic 4 IMPORTANCE OF CADASTRAL SYSTEMS: A look at the economic impact of land and real estate ownership.</td>
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<td>6-7</td>
<td>Topic 5 DIGITAL ORGANIZATION OF CADASTRAL SYSTEMS: Show examples of automated cadastral systems.</td>
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<td>8-9</td>
<td>Topic 6 CADASTRAL SYSTEMS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: Examples of cadastral systems in developing countries and strategies to improve these systems.</td>
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<td>10-11</td>
<td>Topic 7 WORLDWIDE INTEREST IN CADASTRAL SYSTEMS: A look at current trends in the advancement of cadastral systems throughout the world.</td>
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<td>6 or 7</td>
<td>Mid-Semester Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>Reports and Presentations</td>
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Note: Changes in this course schedule may be necessary and will be announced to the class by
the Instructor. The assignments and exams shown are directly related to the Student Learning Outcomes described in Section F.

K. COURSE POLICIES

It is the goal of the GISC Faculty to offer all online courses in parallel with face-to-face courses. By design, on-line students will receive the same learning experience, program student outcomes, and program educational objectives as students in the classroom. As such, online students are required to progress throughout the class at the same pace as the face-to-face students. This includes meeting the same deadlines. All online students are required to read and abide by the Program’s Online Policies which are available at: http://sci.tamucc.edu/CSCI/GISC/undergraduate-online.html

Attendance/Tardiness
Attendance for in-class students is compulsory.

Late Work
Late work will not be accepted.

Extra Credit
Extra credit will not be offered.

Participation
Participation in discussion is expected and will be graded.

L. COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- Academic Integrity (University)
  University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

- Classroom/Professional Behavior
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that everyone respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic
classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

- **Statement of Civility**
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

- **Deadline for Dropping a Course with a Grade of W (University)**
  The grade of W will be assigned to any student officially dropping a course. Please consult with the instructor before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Just stopping attendance and participation **WILL NOT** automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, visit the Office of the University Registrar for the Course Drop Form that must submitted. No student is eligible to receive a W without completing the official drop process by this deadline. Please consult the Academic Calendar ([http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/](http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/)) for the last day to drop a course.

- **Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering)**
  As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage at [http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html](http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the Office of the Provost.

- **Disability Services**
  The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you
believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call (361) 825-5816 or visit Disability Services in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/

- **Statement of Academic Continuity**
  In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue using Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

M. **OTHER INFORMATION**

- **Academic Advising**
  The College of Science & Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. Meetings are by appointment only; advisors do not take walk-ins. Please call or stop by the Advising Center to check availability and schedule an appointment. The College’s Academic Advising Center is in Center for Instruction 350 or can be reached at (361) 825-3928.

**GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

I reserve the right to modify the information, schedule, assignments, deadlines, and course policies in this syllabus when necessary. I will announce such changes in a timely manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.