Cadastral Systems (GISc 4318)
Department of Geospatial Information Systems (GISc)
Fall 2019

A. COURSE INFORMATION
   
   Course number/section: GISc 4318.001
   Class meeting time: Tu/Th 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM
   Class location: CBI 104
   Course Website: bb9.tamucc.edu

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
   
   Instructor: Dr. Davey Edwards, PLS LSLS CFedS
   Office location: CBI 105
   Office hours: W/F (10am – 12pm); Th (12:30pm – 1:30pm)
   Telephone: (361) 825-3419
   e-mail: davey.edwards@tamucc.edu
   Appointments: Please e-mail for appointments

C. COURSE DESCRIPTION
   

D. PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES
   
   Prerequisites
   GISC 3412

E. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES
   
   Required Textbook(s)

   Optional Textbook(s) or Other References

F. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT
   
   By the end of this course, students should be able to:
1. *Recall and compare* three land tenure systems within the United States; *List and describe* at least two advantages and disadvantages for each system.

2. *Locate* property records in local, state and federal government repositories; *Explain and describe* the types of records, applicable time-period, and the geographic scope of such records.

3. *Recognize and appreciate* the importance of reconciling the written land property records with field evidence to find the “true” scope and extent of real property rights and ownership.

4. *Identify and illustrate* the methods, procedures, and field exercises required to locate riparian boundaries in both tidal and non-tidal waterbodies.

5. *Demonstrate* an understanding of how oil & gas rights are (1) located, (2) valued and (3) protected.

**G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES**

This course is offered in-person only.

The class has two lectures, a reading assignment, a list of extra resources, and a skill check due each week. Projects and quizzes will be posted throughout the semester.

**H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of FINAL GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects (4 @ 100)</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4 @ 125)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
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## I. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE (WEEK)</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER(S)</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Part I: Land Tenure Systems</strong></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Colonial States</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>PLSS States</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>The GLO State: Texas!</td>
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<td>Handout</td>
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<td><strong>Part II: The Written Record</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Record Sources</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Quiz I</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>County &amp; State Records</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Project I</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Deed Recording Types</td>
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<td><strong>Part III: The Physical Evidence</strong></td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Intro to Retracements</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Quiz II / Project II</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Spring Break!</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>PLSS Retracements</td>
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<td><strong>Part IV: Water Boundaries</strong></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Intro to Riparian Issues</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Quiz III</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Inland Waters</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Project III</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Tidal Waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Surveying Water Boundaries</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td><strong>PART V: Oil &amp; Gas</strong></td>
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<td>Oil &amp; Gas I</td>
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<td>Quiz IV</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Oil &amp; Gas II</td>
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<td>Project IV</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.

J. COURSE POLICIES

Attendance/Tardiness
If a student fails to attend two weeks, the professor reserves the right to give the student an administrative “F”

Late Work and Make-up Exams
No late work accepted without a serious/valid excuse

Extra Credit
See “Welcome Back” videos

K. 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 each individual 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 through the use of 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.

L. OTHER INFORMATION

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☐ 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 located 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 if and when necessary. I will announce such changes in a timely manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.