Live Today! AMA Event on GeoNet

Tuesday, May 15, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (PDT)

Join our Cartography. MOOC guests here on the GeoNet Community for a LIVE AMA (Ask Me Anything) event. The AMA will take place in this discussion thread on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (PDT).

*Click HERE to convert exact time for different countries.

This is an opportunity to ask our guests questions about the Cartography. MOOC course, about cartography in general, great maps, best practices or anything else that comes to mind.

AMA Guests

Ken Field
John Nelson
Wesley Jones
Nathan Shephard
Edie Punt
Craig Williams

How does the AMA work?

During the AMA, you can post your questions by clicking the “Add Reply” button below and our guests will reply to your questions in comments. You are welcome to post questions ahead of the AMA and they will answer them during the AMA.

Please note: You must be logged in to post questions and see responses. See instructions on How to Log into GeoNet for the AMA.

AMA Tips and GeoNet Community Guidelines

- When asking questions and comments during the AMA, remember to follow the GeoNet Community Guiding Principles: Be Helpful, Be Human, Be Smart.
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- This discussion page will not auto-refresh, so please remember to refresh this page to see new questions, comments and replies.

Please note: The AMA will be live when you see a picture of our guests below.

We are live!

9:30 a.m. - And we’re live! Go ahead and ask your questions!
9:45 a.m. - If you are just joining us, feel free to ask any question.
10:00 a.m. - We’re halfway through, Great questions! Keep them coming!
10:15 a.m. - If you are just joining us, feel free to ask any question.
10:25 a.m. - Five minutes to go! Got any fun questions for our Guests?
10:30 a.m. - And that’s a wrap! The live AMA has ended with our wonderful Cartography. MOOC Guests.

Thank you for your questions and participation.

The thread has shifted to a time-stamp view. To view the threads in their entirety, you can select the Actions above the right corner of the discussion thread and select View PDF.
Tags: cartography, esri, geonet, mooc, ama, cartography mooc
Hello,

I'm currently taking the MOOC Cartography course and it has been stressed when making choropleth maps (graduated colors for instance) you should not map totals with a choropleth map because the areas and base population data differ between areas, creating problems when comparing areas across the map. I'm still confused as to why. I'll give an example of my thought process.

I have data for Minnesota that tells the change in number of trees per county. I want to make a map choropleth map that shows this. My thinking is to show a map that has counties colored from a dark red when negative through a dark green when they're positive. I am not understanding why I need to normalize the data based on the area of the county. I mean, I understand if you were trying to show a percent change based on area or if you were wanting to know out of the total number of trees as a proportion of the county area but if you just want to give whole total numbers I'm not getting.

Can you please explain this? Thank you!

Greetings All,

As GIS technology becomes easier to use and more ubiquitous, what advice can you give GIS professionals who feel a sense of displacement in the industry?

Enterprise GIS positions are becoming more available and tend to focus more on the programming side and integrating GIS capabilities into new ERP systems, how do we reconcile traditional GIS work with the more modern IT side? With more private organizations positioning GIS as part of the IT department, how do we co-exist in the plan, build, run world that limits the type of GIS work we do?

Industry professionals have oft touted learning to program or developing a speciality alongside our GIS skills. I found that the general thought is that it is easier to teach a traditional computer scientist geospatial concepts than it is to teach a GIS professional with programming background to develop an app. Data Scientists are increasingly able to run spatial analysis using R-packages and GDAL scripts. These can sometimes lead to massive CartoFails!

What advice can you give to those adapting to the changing work types where we don't get to use our Cartographic and more traditional GIS skills learned in this and other MOOCs? Help us put the 'G' back into IS!
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ryan rudnicki 1 posts since Mar 16, 2015

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 10, 2018 12:55 PM

Halo,
I'm wowed by the brilliance of the colors in the thematic maps of this MOOC. They seem almost unreal. My reality is b/w maps. Here are two scenarios.
1. For some of us, in academia, for example, color printers are being removed and replaced with less expensive b/w printers. Hard copy maps, and they do still exist, therefore lose their "punch" in monochromatic graphical environment.

2. At a public hearing/meeting, my PowerPoint projected onto the meeting room screen displays thematic maps in brilliant colors. Reproduction budget only permits distribution of b/w print-outs to those in the audience. How can the "point" of the map be made emphatically in b/w so those taking maps with them will have as strong a visual impression at home as at the public presentation?

How would this MOOC be re-designed to accommodate generating hard copy that is only in black, white, & shades of gray? In other words, how could this course emphasize Ansel Adams rather than Jackson Pollock?

Pavel Vakhrushev 1 posts since Apr 25, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 10, 2018 5:14 PM

Hey! Thanks ESRI team for this interesting and informative international MOOC event.

So I have two main questions.

1 - What about prices for your products!? How much does Arcgis Online subscription cost? They are not displayed anywhere,

2 - Is it possible to find freelance cartography job related with ArcGIS and how to do that?

Jean Ann Rodine 3 posts since May 4, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 10, 2018 9:15 PM

WHERE IS THE AMA PAGE?

Been trying to find it for an hour to sign up.
1) Go to the AMA page. Refreshed the screen, then "AMA page" had a link. Clicked on it only for it to take me to December 2017 event.
WTF! - Where's the Form?
WTP - Where's the Page?
Can't following the rest of the instructions since I can't find the AMA page!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Kitty Hurley 7 posts since Dec 30, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 11, 2018 4:44 PM


May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA)

1. How did you get into the business of cartography and maps? Has cartography always been of interest, or was it something you discovered later on in life?
2. What is your fondest cartography memory from your own work, or someone else’s work that has inspired you?
3. What is your favorite map of all-time, historic or recent?
4. What piece of work that you created are you most proud of, and why (cartography or otherwise)?

Fatimat Adebiyi 1 posts since May 11, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 13, 2018 2:06 PM

Thanks for including the AMA as part of the MOOC-Cartography. My work involves creating maps for African countries e.g. Nigeria and Ghana. It is always challenging to create good maps that actually represent these countries due to insufficient data and base map in ArcGIS. Are there any resources that I could access that will make my work easier. For example, if I want to create a reference map of place called Elekuru in Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria showing the locations of vegetable farmers in the area. Thanks.

Candace Loya 42 posts since Dec 11, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 14, 2018 9:32 PM

↑ in response to Jean Ann Rodine

Hi Jean Ann Rodine.

I am sorry you seem confused by the instructions provided. In the first paragraph of the instructions, it states, “The URL provided in your invitation (a MOOC announcement, an e-mail, a tweet, etc.) is the actual page where the discussion will occur on the date noted.”
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This particular discussion where you made your comment is the actual Cartography. MOOC AMA. No need to search for an AMA page within GeoNet. Simply bookmark or follow this discussion. See image to the right.

The Action menu is just below the pencil at next to your avatar at the top-right of the discussion. Click Follow, where you want to receive notifications, and/or Bookmark so you can find the discussion easier in the future.

Each time a comment or question is posted you will then receive a notification it has been updated with a new comment of change. If you are following the discussion thread the day of the event, you can refresh your screen and see new answers and questions posted during the event.

You can also find the link at the top of the Cartography. MOOC page in the Announcement above the content just below the GeoNet navigation.

I hope this information helps and that you are able to join us on May 15th for the Cartography. MOOC AMA.

Delighted to be of service,
Candace Loya, GeoNet Community Content Manager

Patrick Olsen 2 posts since Apr 22, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 14, 2018 11:33 PM

Dent 6E... Slocum 3E... Field 1E... compare and contrast, with a focus on transferable skills to digital cartography.

Patrick Olsen 2 posts since Apr 22, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 14, 2018 11:33 PM

... and no, I'm not British.

Lawrence Tucker 3 posts since Apr 5, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 12:32 AM

I have encountered some strange "zig zag" lines while working with an .mxd file and downloading some tax parcel property lines onto the map. I am creating a map of a small area of about 5 towns and have added a layer which is actually a polygon on top of the raster image of the area I am studying. The taxpar "lines" don't look like lines at all, but rather appear like a sawblade edge. They also do get really fuzzy and pixelated when I zoom in.

Please help as this is a very important project for us.

thanks,
Larry

Lina Haggard 5 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Hi,
Sometimes a map can be part of a product line, with its own design manual, such as an info board for national parks. The map is to fit with the overall message and design of the board. Colors, typefaces, icons and other elements to be used are already decided, maybe by a graphic design team. Including rules that no italic fonts are to be used on the map (nice for rivers), and no placenames in just capital letters (could be useful for mountain ranges). Have you worked in scenarios like this? With constraints that excludes common cartographic conventions? Do you have examples of maps that go against some common rules? A case of this is not best practice, but here it works?

Thanks for highlighting Daniel Huffman and his page Something About Maps! His tutorials will be very useful.

-I love the MOOC so far! I am looking forwards to the next section with 3D as well.

I have a few questions for you all:

1) What advice would you give to GIS analysts/ cartographers that want to start bumping up their game in the industry? (Blogging? Publishing? etc.) What would be good first steps?
2) For those of you that have done work in consulting or fast-paced/client-based industries, how to you balance creating beautiful and “good” cartography/maps, vs. what the client insists they want but may fall in carto-fail territory?
3) I have seen a bunch of the work you all have done via blogs, twitter, Esri UC presentations, etc. and you all create such amazing, diverse and fun pieces (3D models of JFK’s route, firefly, breweries of the world, historic collections, hand drawn/inking skills, and the incredible list goes on and on...ok ok sorry I'll stop being a total fan-girl here) I was hoping each of you could tell us which of the maps you have created is your favorite or the one you are most proud of?(and if there's time, what about it made it special to you?)

Thanks again for putting together this Mooc, it's been very fun and very educational!

Hello. I am struggling a bit with step 15 and 16 of Section 3 ‘Thematic Maps. I have successfully generated the tiling scheme from the Geoprocessing pane and receive the ‘successfully published web layer’ message also. However my problem arises when I sign in to ArcGis Online.
When searching my content my Map is not visible. I have tried this on numerous occasions but have had no luck.
Any ideas?
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Thanks in advance!!

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 1:22 PM
How does one get into the profession of cartography? I am currently doing a GIS internship but I much prefer the cartographic side. There is no educational program specifically geared toward cartography where I live. I have taken what classes were offered and I do a lot of online training and MOOC’s (THANKS for this great one!). What can I do next? How can students help themselves be better map makers?

sue hawkins 4 posts since Jun 24, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 2:20 PM
in response to ryan rudnicki
Ryan, I happen to think that black white and grey maps can be really beautiful! They may take more planning and/or work, but to me, there’s nothing more beautiful than a really well-done monochrome map. **I'm not saying I'm any good at making them... ;-)**

Brian Anderson 2 posts since May 2, 2018
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 3:27 PM
in response to Bryan Hemmer
Bryan,
You say your data shows the "change in number of trees per county", that means this data is not a single total but a rate and is already normalized by county. The word "per" means "for each" (used to express a ratio or rate). So if the "change" is 32 trees per county then the rate is (32 trees)/(1 county), i.e., a fraction whose numerator is a count of trees and denominator is a count of county's. If you want to normalize by area, then the numerator would still be the physical count of trees, but now the denominator would be the area in whatever units you want to use (square feet, square miles, acres, whatever). Just make sure that each denominator has the same units. If county A has 235 acres then county B must also be converted to acres to normalize the data.
Hope this makes sense. If not I would be more than happy to try and re-explain.

Jon Girand 4 posts since Mar 25, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 3:37 PM
in response to Candace Loya
Ken talked about Normalization problems in cartography. Here is a potential example. This morning’s Wall Street Journal has a map showing the number of oil rigs in the various oil basin in the western US. The graphic data is not normalized so it appears there is a very large amount of drilling activity (463 rigs) in the Permian Basin, compared to the small activity (70 rigs) in the Cana Woodford Basin. However, if one compared the normalized drilling activity in the huge area of the Permian Basin covering west Texas and parts of Mexico and
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New Mexico with the very smallest Cana Woodford Basin using area as a divisor, one would see that the Cana Woodford Basin is one of the hottest drilling areas in the US.

Brian Anderson 2 posts since May 2, 2018
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 3:56 PM
↑ in response to Jon Girand
Thank you Jon, this is a great example.

Just to go a step further, another way to normalize the data might be by looking at the number of pipe feet needed for drilling. So many rigs over so many feet of pipe. Or maybe the inverse, the number of pipe feet per the number of rigs. There are multiple ways to normalize data, not just dividing by area. It once again boils down to what it is you want to show or try to explain.

Anastassiya Suprunova 2 posts since Oct 26, 2015
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:07 PM
Thank you for a great MOOC! I was enjoying it so much so far. My question is not technical, but I would love to know what inspired each of you to be a cartographer. I and my co-workers are participating in GEO Mentoring program from ESRI and it would be great to set an example for kids of such great cartographers as you guys and share what inspired you.
Thank you, Anastassiya.

Warren Davison 32 posts since Jul 5, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:10 PM
Hello CartoMOOC team,

Big fan of the course so far (when I get the time work through the exercises). I've already learned some things that I wasn't anticipating (scale base symbology melted my brain).

I have a practical question, many of us map makers are required to make some pretty standardized deliverables which don't really immediately fall into the realm of cartographically pleasing (I'm looking at you ZONING MAPS). I was wondering if there's any tips or suggestions you may have for approaching these bread & butter thematic maps so they done end up looking like a rainbow-fied dogs breakfast?

Jon Girand 4 posts since Mar 25, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:11 PM
↑ in response to Brian Anderson
Brian,

Thanks. Here is the exhibit I referenced.
The oil drilling company, Baker Hughes, the source of the exhibit, probably did not have or want to share the normalizing data you describe.

But as a MOOC student if I knew where to get a file showing the location of the oil basins in the western US, along with some attribute data I could show where are the hottest places to drill.

Jon

- Normalization_problem_example_WSJ_5_15_2018_.png 290.0 KB

Shirley Leung 1 posts since Feb 19, 2018
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:13 PM
I need to geocode a batch of intersection addresses (5000+) that are separated by (&), e.g. 5th Ave & 23rd St., can you recommend a locator or any other methods. Thank you!

Patrick Oswald 4 posts since Jul 27, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:30 PM
hi I enjoy the MOOC Cartography course and i have been using ArcGIS pro for some projects already. nevertheless there is some functionality that makes it difficult to use for some of my projects. Please try to answer the following question related to styling imagery.
1. In ArcGIS Pro to style satellite imagery (or any other raster data) I can choose DRA (dynamic range). This is super important, esp. for imagery that contain a lot of clouds and haze. Nevertheless, i can not "lock" a dynamic range. This means, as soon as a pan to a different view extend, the DRA changes. I need a constant stretch for my Imagery to be consistent across multiple map views.
   In ArcMap there is the option "From Custom Settings" but this option does not exist in ArcGIS Pro and the "load statistics from XML / Custom in ArcGIS Pro" does not work for this either. Hope you can help with this problem.
If you have an area that is 10 by 10 and an area that is 100 by 100, all things being equal you'd imagine that your density of trees is the same right? So that you might have 10 trees per sq km in the first area and 10 trees per sq km in the second area. On a choropleth, our brains are automatically see larger areas as ‘more’ anyway so it’s vital to counter the way in which our brains interpret that relative to the data being mapped. In this case it’s critical to map density - both 10 trees per sq km and, so, use the same shade of whatever colour (let’s say green eh?). If you mapped totals the first area might have 10 but the second area 100, even though the densities are the same. The totals are only different by virtue of the area size...not the distribution of the data itself. So if you map the first area in a lighter green and the second area as darker your brain is thinking density yet your eyes just see ‘more’ and propagate the error.

It’s really a simple fix if you want to continue to map totals - just use a technique that supports totals like a proportional symbol map. Here, the size of the symbol itself is used to represent the data so it can change size when totals change. Remember, we can’t change the sizes of the areas on a choropleth. We’re stuck with them so we have to accommodate them in different ways.
In basic terms it's our eyes and brains that read maps in a subconscious way and cannot overcome the limitations of the choropleth technique. So we have to do the hard work in making the map right and making the right map so we can trust what we see.

Normalizing is for polygonal data - for choropleth maps. You convert the total for each area to some rate or ratio for that area. So, it would be persons per sq mile, or per capita, or per 100,000, or as a percentage. But always for the same area. That way, you are 'normalising' each area by the same denominator for each area, accounting for the inherent differences. It's not really the choropleth map that needs normalizing...it's the data which, un-normalized, causes the symbology to be incorrectly seen by our very human eyes and brains. We're useless at accounting for unseen differences between areas so we rely solely on what we see. If a map is symbolised showing less and more, of totals, that's what we see...and we process it erroneously to mean something that isn't actually in the data.

I hope that helps

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**John Nelson** 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

**Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA)** May 15, 2018 4:31 PM

↑ in response to Kitty Hurley

Hi Kitty!

1. I was taking art classes and geography classes in college. Then I took a GIS class and was obsessed. So I majored in geography with an emphasis on the “techniques” (GIS, Remote Sensing, Cartography). I liked cartography best.

2. A map of mine landed in National Geographic the day of my mom’s memorial. Dad and I walked up to the mailbox and saw it there together. It was a good moment, and helpful for us both.

3. Hmmmm. Too many!

4. Hmmmm. Too hard!

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**Ken Field** 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

**Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA)** May 15, 2018 4:31 PM

↑ in response to Derek Hoshijo

Great question and probably beyond the scope of a single, simple answer. From my perspective, you can’t be an expert in everything. I lost my ability to code quite some time ago. I collaborate with others who have those skill sets so we can help each other. that said, there has always been a certain amount of re-tooling as cartographic technology changes. I started off with photomechanical and have been through all sorts of CAD, desktop design, illustration and GIS workflows since. you have to accept a certain amount of adaptation is necessary to keep pace. But if you have cartographic skills, make sure they are heard. We all face the prospect of those with other specialisms thinking they also know every other corner of geo. be heard. Show them the difference great work makes. Quality, not quantily. Be smarter. Excellence does rise to the top though sometimes you have to shout pretty liud to be heard.
Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:32 PM

Great question. Monochrome maps (or even two colour) are often some of the hardest to design. The key is in constrast. With colour maps you have an extended palette. In black and white you're really working with one colour (black on white) and simply varying the contrast. You have to stretch the foreground from the background even further, Use masks and spacing. Amek symbols even simpler ad clearer. making a black and white map isn't just about tuning out the colour. It often requires a redesign.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:33 PM

Hi Larry. When line features are really packed with curves the nodes and curves can really stack up at some scales. Try generalizing your line. Also, play with the line symbol. You can change the bends to look rounded, which is a super trick.

Kayla Resnick 6 posts since Apr 26, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:33 PM

I'm interested in this too! I can't imagine giving our engineers a map without a clear title, legend, scale, etc.

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:34 PM

Your lines are vector or are they part of the raster? It sounds like you may be looking at raster data.

Zackary King 14 posts since May 14, 2015

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:34 PM

Thanks all for putting on a great MOOC!

I really appreciate the videos and discussions. It is interesting to hear the thoughts, ideas and pet peeves of the hosts.

My question for the panel is what are your favorite digital cartographic techniques and what techniques do you find most challenging?

Cheers,
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Zack

Ken Field  19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:34 PM

↑ in response to Jon Girand

That map actually has a series of small multiple icons - it's a technique called isotype so it doesn't suffer from the lack of normalization. It uses repetition to portray the differences in magnitude.

Ken Field  19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:35 PM

↑ in response to Kitty Hurley

I wanted to be a footballer, then an astronaut, then a California highway Patrolman...and all from my middle England city! I was good at geography, and reasonably good at art. I simply followed a path that led me into a bachelors course in cartography and then a career. I love that I do a job I love. If you're interested, i wrote up a brief history of how I landed where i landed http://cartonerd.blogspot.com/2013/06/cartographic-identity-disorder.html

John Nelson  32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:35 PM

↑ in response to Lina Haggard

My experience in moonlighting as a cartographer in the past was pretty disastrous. But in doing services work for an organization before esri, I would frequently have to use corporate style sheets. I learned that some companies have guidelines (wink) and others have rules (yikes!). The latitude you have depends a lot on the customer.

But, if you pay for the band you name the tune.

Ken Field  19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:36 PM

↑ in response to Kitty Hurley

Fondest cartographic memory:

Making a map that people physically engaged with...leant in, touched, searched, found a connection with.

Favourite map:

I have hundreds because there are so many different genres and each has many magnificent examples to choose from...but Beck's London Underground nudges as my favourite. the original. not the abomination that Transport for London have turned it into.

Most proud of.
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I am proud of the book that's about to be published. I've been thinking about it for around 15 years. I'm proud to call many great cartographers friends. I also tend to be proud of the last map I made...a process that means you're always searching for something better, to learn new techniques and to make new and interesting maps. I'm also pretty proud of this MOOC. I recall taking the idea to David DiBiase and saying I think it'd be popular. I didn't imagine it'd attract 35,000 people!

Kayla Resnick 6 posts since Apr 26, 2018
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:36 PM

↑ in response to John Nelson

Maybe don't pick an absolute favorite piece of work you created, but what are some techniques you've used most successfully? Anything you've been most excited about recently?

Candace Loya 42 posts since Dec 11, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:37 PM

↑ in response to Pavel Vakhrushev

Thank you for posting your questions. In regards to the question for pricing, we do not have an answer to this question at this time. I will share your question with our support team to give you the most accurate answer possible. Please be sure check back over the next 24-48 hours for a response from our support team on pricing.

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:37 PM

↑ in response to Patrick Olsen

All good. I have all three. I'd say the latter is more practically focused. It also bridges pure cartography with design in a more general sense. It has far more examples than the others. It's visually enticing and less, ahem, academic in layout, structure and tone. It also has somewhere in the order of 100 contributors which means it's a collective 'voice' for what cartography is in 2018. There's a reason it has a period (full stop) at the end of the title...it's really the only book you need going forward. A desk companion, a sage, a reference, a compendium of sound advice and encouragement to think about the importance of thinking in cartographic design.

All that said, it's really up for others to review and determine how they see my contribution. And that's something I am scared stiff of!!!

Wesley Jones 6 posts since May 15, 2015
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:39 PM

↑ in response to Warren Davison

Having worked at county I know what this is like. But there are always ways to improve things, even if slightly. Little layout changes, subtle colour changes. There are always constraints so working within them is important
and pushing where you can. At times I would submit the standard one the county wanted and submit one that I thought was an improvement. Presenting them that way slowly got the ball rolling in the right direction.

Kayla Resnick 6 posts since Apr 26, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:39 PM

in response to Ken Field

When does your book become available for purchase? I'm planning to get my hands on it, especially after seeing some of the graphics in the course videos!

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:39 PM

in response to Shannon Gonzales

1) Blogging was a huge help for me. If I have to explain something to another human, I find that I have to start thinking about my creative structure, too. Also, experiment with your maps and share, asking for advice.

2) The best you can do is to be versed in the big rules of effective visualization. If they ask you to break them and you rationally and politely address your concern, they tend to be really understanding. But not always.

3) Thanks! I like the hurricane map the we had as a stretch goal in week 2. That might be my favorite map. Or a pivotal one for me, anyway.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:39 PM

in response to Lina Haggard

Hi Lina,

This is a great question, and yes you are absolutely right that in many cases there are constraints for your map that are beyond basic cartography principles.

Remember that a map is just a form of graphic communication. There will always be constraints in this. So begin with those constraints and work around them.

If you need to follow a color scheme, begin there. Choose or create symbols that follow that color constraint. You can choose text colors that match that too.

Italics on rivers and other physical features is a common convention, but not a must. There are few hard and fast rules in Cartography that can't be worked around. You can differentiate these forms in different ways, perhaps a lighter version of the same typeface.

So, start with the constraints, then use your best judgement and skill to work the rest of the design around those in a clear and complementary way.

Edie
Ken Field  19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:39 PM

↑ in response to Lina Haggard

Off the top of my head I don't have any maps that buck trends in the way you describe but many maps have to adhere to style specs, standards, colour identities etc. It's a fact of cartographic life! I guess all you can do is make alternatives and put them in front of people to try and show them a better/different way. Remember, the London underground map looked very different before Harry Beck came up with his version which was not well received by the company to start with.

Kayla Resnick  6 posts since Apr 26, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:40 PM

↑ in response to Wesley Jones

I like this strategy... Ultimately we are (hopefully) the experts, so it might just be a matter of showing "them" a different way to present the information they are used to.

John Nelson  32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:40 PM

↑ in response to Kayla Resnick

Well I do like the firefly technique. It looks sort of intriguing, the glow fades away with distance, just like real life phenomena, and it gets people excited about trying it out on their own.

Patrick Oswald  4 posts since Jul 27, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:42 PM

For some maps good/appropriate markers, line and fill styles are super important. ArcGIS Pro provides an amazing amount of options and functionality to customize and create "your own" styles. Nevertheless, this can be very time consuming and creating professional styles is not so easy either.

Question:
1. is there a repository with a larger number of professional styles (marker, line, fills) where i can search for and download additional styles into my ArcGIS Pro projects?
2. For a project I need to create "antique" looking maps (its for a city heritage project as well as a historic explorer's diaries from the 1830s in Myanmars Myeik Archipelago project). Ideally that would also work in ArcGIS Online as part of the project are a Map Story Web app as well as a set of story map Web apps. Are there some good tutorials that explain how to create "old / antique looking maps" or predefined styles i could use (and customize). E.g. i would need some "old paper" backgrounds, some rigged/hand drawn looking lines, etc...

Pakrad Balabanian  9 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...  

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:43 PM
Dear Team,
Thanks a lot for this amazing course. I love it.
I have a question regarding the 3D labels. Using ArcGIS Pro scene view, how can I elevate the labels in a 3D environment and add a leader line to it similar to the sample you showed in the video. I attached a screen shot below...
I tried the offset settings for the label and all possible parameters with no luck...

![Screen Shot](image-url)

John Nelson  32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:43 PM

in response to Alex Mohr
Lots of paths into any sort of field. But starting with a GIS background, like you have, then increasing your design skills, is a great path forward. If you find blogs of cartographers you like, there are lots of helpful how-to posts usually. Don't worry too much about formal programs.

Craig Williams  57 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:44 PM

in response to Patrick Oswald
Patrick, it sounds like you may be running into a software bug. I recommend contacting support services to have this case evaluated as custom statistics and loading of statistics should be working properly.
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:44 PM

in response to Kitty Hurley
Kitty,
I got my start in Cartography because I was researching the Canadian Inuit, and the ways that they traditionally understood their land in an oral-only tradition. This meant they relied heavily on ephemeral mapping. As I continued this work, it made me curious about how all maps are made. After I finished my degree I went to a technical college to learn both manual and digital cartography.

My fondest cartographic memory is having the opportunity to work with David Rumsey and immerse myself for months in his physical map collection. I’m most proud of the book that David Rumsey and I wrote together from that work.

Edie

Wesley Jones 6 posts since May 15, 2015

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:45 PM

in response to Anastassiya Suprunova

I slowly walked into this career. It took me a long time to find something that really spoke to me. When I finally decided on Cartography I made the decision to go to a school that taught it really well. I will give a shout out to my college: the Nova Scotia Community College - Centre of Geographic Sciences. They have a variety of programs and also a two year program that can super jump start your cartography / GIS career.

I can tell you one reason that cartography is a great fit for me. I get to combine art and science. I get to balance both sides of my personality.

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:45 PM

in response to Shannon Gonzales

I think the best advice I can give you is immerse yourself in maps and just try and see what has worked over many many years for others. Identify the good from the weak and build yourself an appreciation and your own set of likes/dislikes and what techniques you are drawn to...then give them a go AND SIGN YOUR WORK. Blog about it, share it, send it to map galleries and competitions. Put it in front of people and get critique.

I did the map design commission map a day blog precisely to create a set of great maps that people can learn from: Commission on Map Design | Website of the newly established ICA Commission on Map Design

Consultancy - it pays the bills. I've done plenty of maps paid for by others that I wouldn't have designed that way myself BUT they were all well made. Maybe not to my taste but they worked.
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me... 

I don't have a particular favourite personal map of mine. It's usually the latest one I've made because there's usually some technical or conceptual aspect I've been pleased to tackle. But I still like the Deaths in the Grand Canyon because it's so dramatic. I also like Breweries of the World because you don't often get asked to make a 20ft map of beer for a brewery. A lot of my maps are here: carto.maps.arcgis.com

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Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:45 PM

Mark your calendar, Kayla. Ken said it is out on June 28th.

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Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:45 PM

Rainbow-filled dogs breakfastsssssstttttt (to be read in the voice of a drooling Homer Simpson). Sometimes if I was asked to make something pretty standard, I would just go ahead and do something weird and different and see if it stuck. Sometimes it worked! Other times, they deferred to the standard, but then their expectations of standard were pulled in my direction just a little. BWA HA HA HA HAAAA!

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Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:46 PM

Thanks for asking this question! I had not realized Pro doesn't have the "Custom Settings" to lock imagery display settings. I will also be interested to hear the solution on this one as it's a necessary tool in our Desktop work.

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Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:46 PM

I kinda fell into it simply by following what I loved to do. Given I was rubbish at Chemistry that meant I couldn’t be a surgeon and I didn’t have the patience to spend 7 years studying architecture. Maps it was!

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Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:47 PM

I love how cartography is a mix of lots of cool things, live analytics, art, geography. I have a short attention span so I think cartography's generous in-roads has helped me focus.
Hi Shannon,

I'd say the best thing to do to "up your game" is to just start making lots of maps (and, if you're up for it, 3D scenes) and experimenting with different approaches to see what works. One set of data can be used in many different ways - see what works (and doesn't work). And then... and this is the hard part... put them out for others to comment on. Feedback is critical to help improve what you're doing. Several of us are on Twitter and will happily take a peek.

In regards to giving clients the maps they ask for, it can be tough to change an existing pattern, especially when they're paying the bills. There's nothing to stop you pitching a "better approach", though. Give it a shot. It's up to them whether they listen, or simply don't see the added value in the change.

My favorite scene (because I'm very 3D) is nearly always "the one I'm working on next". Having said that, I did geo-position 36 Views of Mt Fuji (by Hokusai) by positioning them in 3D space. That was a lot of fun.

-Nathan.

Hi: I'll add to the chorus of "great mooc!" Thanks for putting this together -- my aesthetic eye has never been great and this is helping me.

On the first hurricane map, I thought it would be cool to do a color ramp of the points by data in, I dunno, 20 year increments. Alas, after fooling around for awhile I couldn't figure out how to assign different color (aka colour) by a date range. I suspect it's pretty easy but I ran out of time. Helpful hint?? Grazie!

There's more to cartography than just the direct tasks of map-making. Learn about graphic design, typography, color theory. Learn everything you can about statistics and how to graphically portray numerical data. Learn about different data sources and data sets.

Edie

There's more to cartography than just the direct tasks of map-making. Learn about graphic design, typography, color theory. Learn everything you can about statistics and how to graphically portray numerical data. Learn about different data sources and data sets.

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There's more to cartography than just the direct tasks of map-making. Learn about graphic design, typography, color theory. Learn everything you can about statistics and how to graphically portray numerical data. Learn about different data sources and data sets.

Edie
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

Thank you!

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:49 PM

I actually find 3D challenging because I struggle to find a reason for it. So I need to really think carefully about how to reconcile some of the limits that 3D inevitably has with the benefits it can afford. It's a unique challenge.

Patrick Oswald 4 posts since Jul 27, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:51 PM

hi Craig
This does not seem to be a bug. There is just no option to "lock" the settings. I tried it with different versions of ArcGIS Pro (2.0, 2.1) and on different computers. Same problem. There is just no way of "locking the DRA" or i can't find it.
When i choose "Custom".. i still would need to manually define the stats - as exporting the stats from the DRA and loading those into Custom does not work.
I asked the same question in the MOOC "Imagery at Work" but did not get an answer from the MOOC team back then.

sue hawkins 4 posts since Jun 24, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:50 PM

I started with an Art Major and have never had any formal geography courses at all. The lack of geography is a bit of a handicap, but the art background is very helpful. I knew I loved maps as early as age 4, playing with giant planning maps my Dad used to bring home for us to color on.
People are so lucky nowadays to have GIS programs in school... even *computers* in school...
I'm really loving this MOOC; looking forward to more! Thanks for putting it all together!
---sue

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:50 PM

Custom is available in ArcGIS Pro raster symbology. I think the above post is pointing out an issue with the functionality.
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

↑ in response to John Nelson

John,

Thanks much for your help. I have tried to change the symbol and that has not worked.
I have attached a "snip" of what I am encountering.
the lines appear to be vectors, but perhaps you are on to something by referring to them as curves.
Also, need to address the blurring or pixelating when I zoom in.

thanks,

LT
Thanks George! Cool idea. I did an animated version where I played through each year. Sort of that idea. But there are so many cool things you can do with visualizing time slices.

Great MOOC guys even though the dog keeps eating my homework every week.

I have some 100M GRID data with a population value. I have it open in ArcGIS Pro. How can I "extrude" the surface to show population in the Z-axis?

Thank you for the link, I'll be spending a lot of time later checking out your maps. I'm glad I didn't see your Death in the Grand Canyon map before I went hiking there a couple of weeks ago!

Craig
Thanks much for your help. I have tried to change the symbol and that has not worked. I have attached a "snip" of what I am encountering. The lines appear to be vectors, but perhaps you are on to something by referring to them as curves. Also, need to address the blurring or pixelating when I zoom in.

thanks,
LT

Cathy Wilson 9 posts since Aug 31, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:53 PM

Would you please enlighten those of us who have no idea what those are? Books?

Thank you!

Patrick Oswald 4 posts since Jul 27, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:25 PM

Dear Craig, thanks for looking at my question regarding the problem with missing functionality of "locking in a DRA stretch for imagery in Pro". Yeah there is the Custom setting... but how do i get the "appropriate" stats to put in there. In ArcMap i could just pan to an area and the DRA for that area produced the "Stats" i could then lock in. In ArcGIS Pro this workflow does not work anymore. How to get the stats needed for a good display?

Samaresh Biswal 2 posts since Apr 18, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:54 PM

Hello,
After cartography lesson any community projects i can be part off and use the learning gained from this course?

Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:54 PM

We have limited options for 3D labeling in Pro at the moment, but we're looking to improve that soon.

For the above screenshot, it looks like a "trick" is being used. Here's a workflow that will likely work:
- Create point features for the label points
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

- They'll need to be z-aware, and make sure they're above the features they're labelling
- Symbolize them with a pushpin symbol (search for "pushpin" in the gallery)
- Label the point feature with the "top of point" option

Hope this helps!
-Nathan.

Will Begley 4 posts since Jan 6, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:54 PM

Good Afternoon/Morning Everyone!
I want to first say, the class is awesome. I love learning more about Cartography and how to make even more beautiful maps with so many different techniques. I currently work for Tipp City, Ohio and I have been here for about 3 years now and I make very basic maps (Utility, Zoning, etc...) and it honestly gets pretty boring sometimes. I do the same maps over and over again and I feel like I can do more but sometimes when I try, the people who need the maps, who have been here much longer than I have, don't like it (Stuck in their ways) and are basically wanting an Aerial Image with the layer they need on top of it. I would love to do more but feel limited by what data I have as well as who I am making the map for. Have to make simple maps that please my coworkers. With that being said, I only have a couple questions.
1: What is one way, or more, that I can help improve my day to day maps to make it feel less repetitive?
2: What kind of things can I do to help further my cartography skills to build my portfolio and to help in my future career adventures?
I would honestly love to get where you all are. I look at some of the maps you all have made and am simply in awe of them. The way you guys take so many different topics and make them into some of the most beautiful things I have ever seen. That is the reason I feel in love with geography and GIS in the first place, the love of beautiful maps that tell an amazing story. My wife laughs at me when I see one and try to talk to her about it. I mean she sees it but I think she just sees the first layer, where I look past that and try to see the story and the meaning behind it.
Thank you for making this MOOC and taking the time to answer questions.
Wil Begley

Shannon Gonzales 4 posts since Apr 10, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:55 PM

in response to Nathan Shephard
I think you may have shown some of the Mt Fuji work you did at the UC last year... it was amazing to see how well the art was lined up! I am slowly teaching myself 3D and playing around with some maps/ scenes in arcPro. Looking forwards to the next section to learn more of the how-to's!

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:55 PM
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me... 

↑ in response to Christian Harder
It's impossible, Christian!
Sincerely, Kenneth.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:56 PM
↑ in response to Patrick Oswald
Hey Patrick,
Yes, we are building up a library of styles. You can see them here: https://esri-styles.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html
When you're in ArcGIS pro, you can search All Portal for "stylx" and you'll find them. We're always working to build more styles, and happy to take suggestions.

Edie

Samantha Coccia-Schillo 5 posts since Dec 14, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:00 PM
Hello all,
Myself and two coworkers started a GIS Power Users Group (GISPUG for short..) in our department. The GIS Power Users meet quarterly to share projects we're working on, new products we are using or just general GIS tips and tricks! This month our GISPUG topic is ArcGIS Pro. A few of us will be demonstrating our experiences in Pro and encouraging others to join the bandwagon! What are some of your favorite features/abilities/structures/etc. of using ArcGIS Pro vs ArcMap to show off that would help us to pull more users over to the Pro-side? Thanks!

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:57 PM
↑ in response to Patrick Oswald
You should check out the Cartographers Guild.... those guys do lots of antique maps along with fantasy and other.

Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:58 PM
↑ in response to Christian Harder
Hi Christian,
Don't listen to John-In-Kens-Clothing.
You need to convert the GRID to point features, then use attribute-driven height with cube symbols. I can show you later. It can be a fun effect.
-Nathan.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:58 PM

1: It's easy to get into a rut. I have been bigtime. Try a couple variant symbology options if you have data maps. Like instead of choropleth try dot density. Or graduated symbols. I've found that to be ridiculously helpful.

2: Same as bullet 1, really. Also, find makers whose work you admire and reach out to them for feedback on your map.

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:58 PM

The ArcGIS Online geocoding supports intersections. For more information, see Geocoding and Place Search | ArcGIS for Developers
John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:58 PM

↑ in response to Nathan Shephard

Ok, it's not impossible. It's improbable.

Love, Ken.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:59 PM

↑ in response to Zackary King

In addition to 3D challenges, like Ken has, I find I'm unfamiliar with raster techniques. They are so different from the vector techniques that I am comfortable with, but I know that I am leaving some potential on the table with my maps by not thinking of pixels.

Edie

Loren Muehlius 13 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:59 PM

↑ in response to Lawrence Tucker

I know in ArcGIS Desktop if you had a layer with transparency above other layers, it would rasterize layers below (even vector layers). Don't know if Pro does this, but may be something to look at.

Loren

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:59 PM

↑ in response to Will Begley

Really, I would just keep making maps, learning new techniques and working out how to make them. Learn what works, what doesn't. See what sorts of maps are out in the big world and try and replicate them. that way, you build your experience, you learn what is better and what is poorer and your personal portfolio grows at the same time.

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 4:59 PM

↑ in response to Nathan Shephard

THREE DEEEEE ECTOPLASM!!!!

Jon Girand 4 posts since Mar 25, 2017
Can you recommend good search engines to locate public domain maps?

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Cool, Samantha!
My favorite feature of Pro is, hands-down, the mega support for transparency. Item-level transparency to clustered features appear denser, and even transparency within gradients. So many cool things to be done. So many. Play with the color scheme editor and get ready to live.

George Durkee 3 posts since Apr 18, 2018

John, thanks. Could you or crew suggest a workflow to start. I like animated but the first step would be to divide the points by year then assign a color to each year. Even that step I had problem with. Can a color ramp be assigned to points? I'd got back and fiddle around (endlessly...) and likely eventually figure it out but you guys are here now! Any help appreciated!

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016

Can you tell us more about the use of transparency? I know some of you use it more than others, but what do like best about it?

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014

I'll pass this on to the raster development team, thank you.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

I google image search if I am looking for an example style or something. The Library of Congress map twitter account has lots of inspiring old maps.
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me... 

↑ in response to John Nelson
Thank you! Both your response and Ken's are exactly what I needed to hear. I use my time to do what I do at work but in my free time or afterwork, I don't use it to build my portfolio like I should. The idea to contact the map maker themselves is smart. That honestly makes sense. Again thank you guys for the encouragement.

Candace Loya 42 posts since Dec 11, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:03 PM

↑ in response to Samaresh Biswal
Hi Samaresh,
Thank you for asking. At this moment we do not have an answer. However, you are fairly new to GeoNet. I recommend becoming a more active member of the GeoNet Community and finding a group within the Community that may be offering the projects you are seeking that you can participate in or join. This will also open doors for networking with other GIS professionals within GeoNet.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:03 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr
Transparency gives you the option to add a whole new visual dimension into cartography. A peer of hue and brightness, etc. You can make all sorts of cool things. Here is an example of using transparency on a DEM to look like mist.
https://nation.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=80a6bf8ab21e4f538389b63580e85a48

Christian Harder 9 posts since Jul 5, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:04 PM

↑ in response to Nathan Shephard
Thanks Nathan I'll find you later. I knew Ken in any configuration couldn't be bothered with 3D gimmicks. But this is an actual good application: daytime vs nighttime population comparison that would look something like this terrible screenshot:
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:04 PM

↑ in response to George Durkee

You should be able to do it with an Arcade expression --> the different between the field-value and the max date value. Or you can create a new dedicated field (in the feature class) and calculate a value using the same technique - eg: number of days since the earliest date.

Then use a continuous color scheme for the change through time.

Lots of options! Sounds like it could be pretty cool.

-Nathan.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:04 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr

For sure! That page is so inspiring. I like the twitter feed of sweetness they pour out into the world... Cartographers' Guild (@CartoGuild) | Twitter

Wesley Jones 6 posts since May 15, 2015

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:05 PM

↑ in response to Will Begley

1. One way to make things feel less repetitive is to see if you can start up any of your own projects that you have a passion for. Can you carve out 30mins to do that project that inspires you. Because when you are doing something that inspires you you will naturally want to do it and you will see your skills leap forward.

2. Take courses like this one. But I think it is key to do a project - at home or at work. Suggestion: Do small projects first. If you start too big it is easy to get deflated. Do something that is a two week project to start.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:06 PM

↑ in response to Samantha Coccia-Schillo

Great question Samantha!

We often find that it’s the seemingly-simple features that are the most useful and for people. A few of my favorites in ArcGIS Pro are:

- A very powerful undo-redo stack
- Ability to link multiple views, even across 2D-3D
- Multiple layouts
- Map frames in a layout clipped to any shape
- Any color used anywhere-- even in a small part of a symbol-- can be independently wholly or partially transparent
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me...

• Font preview when choosing fonts
• A very powerful explore/navigate tool

Edie

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:07 PM
↑ in response to John Nelson
Very cool! Thanks!

Wesley Jones 6 posts since May 15, 2015
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:07 PM
↑ in response to Jon Girand
David Rumsey has a great site where most are public domain (not all) David Rumsey Historical Map Collection| The Collection

Samaresh Biswal 2 posts since Apr 18, 2018
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:08 PM
↑ in response to Candace Loya
Hi Candace,
Thanks a lot for the feedback.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:08 PM
Why isn't anyone asking Craig Williams any painfully personal questions??

Will Begley 4 posts since Jan 6, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:08 PM
↑ in response to Wesley Jones
That is a good idea. I have done a few things here at work that I got to do myself and make it my own and the only person who really needs to be pleased with it is myself. You are right saying that when is it something that inspires me, it goes well and I get to be as creative as I want.
Thanks!

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:09 PM
↑ in response to John Nelson
Here's a link to that feed. Good stuff.

LOCMaps (@LOCMaps) | Twitter

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:09 PM

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Can you provide more information about how you're bringing this data into Google Earth? As a service? Exported as KML?

George Durkee 3 posts since Apr 18, 2018

Hey, just took a quick look at DEM to fog effect. That is way, way cool. Thanks!

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:10 PM

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

I think that's the best way forward sometimes. It was for me. I was working at a software company that had maps and stuff but I hadn't made a map in like 8 years. So I just started doing it and it all sort of took on a life of its own. Have fun!

Michael Gould 5 posts since Jun 12, 2014

Great questions/answers so far. But still nobody has asked about John's chicken(?)

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:12 PM

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016


Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014

In 3D views, it can also be used in others ways. You can use it to indicate features that aren't currently there, like a suite of proposed homes that haven't been built yet. Or features that have uncertainty, like fading out
a feature's location of as time progresses (and no new updated location comes in). It can also be used to partially see-through container objects, like making the exterior walls of a building partially transparent. With animation, you can also use transparency as the transmission mode between states --> eg: a classic "before and after" visual effect for a mudslide, or city skyline change.

Transparency does impact color significantly (in 2D and 3D), so be careful with using it when the color "means something" for the features you are symbolizing.

-Nathan.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:12 PM

Why, what are you talking about? Chicken??

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:12 PM

I answered a similar question elsewhere in this forum, but keep an eye out for skills that don't seem cartography-related. These include graphic design (page composition), typography, color theory, statistics...

Also, as others said... find maps that resonate with you-- even if they are old. Take a long hard look and try to figure out what makes it work. Is it the colors? The typefaces? The way the numeric data is presented? Then do what you can to replicate it as closely as possible.

Edie

Terry Duncan 2 posts since May 15, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:15 PM

Forgive my naivety, maybe I am dreaming but is there a way to use ArcGIS to link with Google Earth (GE) kmz/kml files in order to present data such as oblique photos and/or data about a particular/specific GE location? Thanks - mostly for the course! and if you can point me in the correct direction towards an answer... td

Bruna Pinto 1 posts since May 15, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:15 PM

Thank to Esri Team, the course is great!
So far, I have just one question: When do I know the best time to leave ArcMap and use only ArcPro? I can't afford both licenses.

James Stegall 1 posts since May 15, 2018
I finally got here! Man, there are a lot of good stuff here. This is my first experience with cartography. I am probably in the lowest level users, if I am considered a user. I do not know what to ask. I think I will use what I have left of my lunch time and go back and work on section three. Do not know if I can finish the course, but I will get as much done before it ends. Jim

Pakrad Balabanian 9 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Another question, do you have a favorite color palettes and preferred font sets that you use.. can you share them with us?

Will Begley 4 posts since Jan 6, 2017

Ok, one more question. What kind of other education would you guys recommend looking into to further my education? I have a bachelors degree in Geography as well as the GIS Certificate but I was thinking about going one step further but my schedule won’t exactly allow for me to sit in a class but I was thinking about online options. Any recommendations?
Thanks

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

I think you get both with the same license. I've found the best way forward is to import an Arc Desktop project you are familiar with into Pro, so the on-ramp is a little smoother.

Zackary King 14 posts since May 14, 2015

I definitely understand your predicament Will. I used to make maps for an Archaeology consultant that thought cartography was based on a strict set of rules and allowed for no variation on it.
I ended up automating as much of the process as I could using scripts, layer files and templates and then used the extra time to find new data sets and explore new techniques for making maps that hopefully someone would appreciate. It allowed me to be available for special more interesting projects that would come up while the other GIS Techs were bogged down in their day to day tasks, which they seemed to be comfortable and happy with.

I saw blogging mentioned in one of the topic above. I think something like that might help get out of a rut.

Maybe there is a place online where people can share maps or ideas? An Instagram for cartographers maybe?
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me... 

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:18 PM

↑ in response to Pakrad Balabanian
Regarding the color palette question, you should check out the Viridis set of colors. Great for maps and visualization. https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/viridis/vignettes/intro-to-viridis.html

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:18 PM

Where do you see the future of cartography going? I love all the computerization and the ability to create movable 3D renditions, but I also love the feel of a map in my hands that I can open and peruse at my leisure.

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:18 PM

↑ in response to Bruna Pinto
ArcMap and ArcGIS Pro come as part of the same license so you should be good to go.

As for when to switch...whenever you are comfortable. At v1.0 I still used ArcMap about 80% of the time. At v2.0 I probably switched to doing 70% of my work in Pro. Now (v2.1.2) I go to Pro first and it actually now freaks me out going back to ArcMap. So, it all depends on when you’re comfortable, when Pro supports what you do and...when you make the jump!

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:19 PM

↑ in response to Kitty Hurley
1. I started as a business major (yuck) and found Geography as a major. I loved it an never looked back. I especially like the mix of cartography and computer science that my job allows
2. Since my job is mostly software related, I’m most proud of ArcGIS Pro and being involved in it since the beginning.
3. San Serriffe
4. I take pride in shipping cartographic software and helping our users make better maps with our software.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:19 PM

↑ in response to John Nelson
But usually, I start with a simple hue gradient with a slight brightness shift too. To help re-inforce the less-to-more visual. Then I just play with them manually in the Color Scheme Editor in Pro until something looks cool.
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA)

Wesley Jones 6 posts since May 15, 2015
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:19 PM
↑ in response to James Stegall
Glad you are taking the course.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:20 PM
↑ in response to James Stegall
Welcome James!
Keep working through it as you can. If you're trying to make maps, then you are definitely part of the tribe!
Edie

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:21 PM
10 more minutes! We've lost threaded conversations for some reason, they are all flat chronological now. But keep them rolling in!

Jon Girand 4 posts since Mar 25, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:22 PM
↑ in response to Wesley Jones
How do I do a search for public domain maps given a geographic constraint of a large scale rectangular box?

Pakrad Balabanian 9 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:22 PM
↑ in response to John Nelson
Thanks a lot.. you are the man...

Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:23 PM
↑ in response to Terry Duncan
Hi Terry,
You can add KML/KMZ layers into ArcGIS Pro (just like other data types) and see the content in 2D or 3D, then visit the content as needed. There's also a GP tool called "KML to Layer" that will convert the KML elements into attributed features - it will create multiple layers (eg: point, line, polygon, ...) depending upon the contents of the KML.
To go the other way, you can export a layer to KML using the "Layer to KML" GP tool.

There are some limitations with what parts of the KML spec are supported in both directions, so your results will rely somewhat on how the KML has been authored.
-Nathan.

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:23 PM

Zachary, yes, there is such a place for exactly that, sharing maps and ideas. Take a look: Map Advice Community

Edie

John, You mentioned using a vignettes instead of neatline...can you explain?

Ok glad it's not just me, I thought I may have hit some weird sorting option on accident :-s

The sky is the limit

Can I set the default when printing a large map to avoid it printing in tile format? You can imagine my surprise when I printed my first map in ArcGIS Pro recently and this happened at our plotter!

Alex
OK... is the chicken your favorite pet?

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:26 PM

↑ in response to Lesli Haynes
Hi Lesli! Yeah, I find that vignettes (those little faded edges around the perimeter of a map) is a soft way to visually frame visual content. I like neatlines sometimes (though rarely) but only if part of my map spills OVER the neatline.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:27 PM

↑ in response to John Nelson
And you can do strange but effective practical and impractical things with transparency in gradients. Here is a big collection of resources: https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-pro/analytics/interesting-and-absurd-uses-of-digital-elevation-models/

Candace Loya 42 posts since Dec 11, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:28 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr
Hi @Alex,

You can buy the Cartography. book on Amazon.

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:28 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr
No. It is a fine chicken, but my dog Pepper is my favorite pet. And my office mate.

Shannon Gonzales 4 posts since Apr 10, 2017
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:28 PM

↑ in response to Ken Field
Thank you for this great advise! Other than the UC map gallery... what other map competitions or galleries would you recommend for beginners to start submitting their work to?

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:29 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr
The future will be what it will be. Cartography has always been a mix of art, science and technology. Technology has always brought intriguing new opportunities while, at the same time, leading some to bemoan change. You have to keep up with the change but life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in awhile, you could miss it. The death of paper is greatly exaggerated for sure.

Bueller...Bueller...

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:30 PM

Finally, a Ferris Bueller reference!!

sue hawkins 4 posts since Jun 24, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:30 PM

Is there a course section this week? Please?

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:31 PM

I would submit your work to the public gallery of social media. Like Instagram and Twitter. No better way of sharing and getting feedback.

Sally Tinis 2 posts since Mar 1, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:31 PM

Thanks for the reply, Craig. Our workflows are still heavily invested in Desktop, but we're making use of the opportunities to see how we might operate with Pro. Because of very heavy image demand and some network speed issues, we haven't spent much time testing the image handling at this point. I'll make sure to take a look.

Edie Punt 19 posts since Oct 15, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:32 PM

Hey Alex--

A map is just graphic communication of spatial phenomena. The techniques and styles will change over time, but there will always be a need to convey this information in a clear and informative way. Keep that in mind (more so than the nifty techniques) and you can't go wrong.

Edie
May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA)

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:32 PM

↑ in response to sue hawkins
Yes...this week is all about mapping time! Goes live tonight.

Alex Mohr 7 posts since Aug 13, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:32 PM

Thanks for taking the time to do this!

sue hawkins 4 posts since Jun 24, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:32 PM

↑ in response to Ken Field
Thanks! Appreciate it

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:33 PM

↑ in response to Ken Field
Wrong...that's week 6. Tonight, section 5 goes live and it's about threeee deee (3D) with Nathan Shephard

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:33 PM

↑ in response to Alex Mohr
Thanks for the great questions, Alex!

Craig Williams 57 posts since Jul 4, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:33 PM

↑ in response to Stephanie Taylor
We'll be improving the printing user experience in a future release. At this point, we hope to address this issue and have a better connection between the printer and layout experience including showing printer page boundaries.

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014
Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:35 PM

BOOM! And that's a wrap. We're outta here. Thanks for all your great questions. We apologise about John Nelson but we'll put him back in his box now.
Nathan Shephard 32 posts since Jul 4, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:35 PM

3D is good. You will love it.

Terry Duncan 2 posts since May 15, 2018

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:37 PM

3D is good. You will love it.

Thanks for your reply regarding layer to kml exports and and vice versa... I will keep investigating now that I know it is possible. If you know of or could advise any good tutorials, please do so?

Great fun! This MOOC and ArcGIS Pro have given me a new level of intrigue!

John Nelson 32 posts since Jun 22, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:36 PM

4D??

Candace Loya 42 posts since Dec 11, 2017

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:38 PM

Thank you to everyone who participated in today’s Ask Me Anything session with our special and wonderful, fast-typing guests. Thank you to:

Edie Punt
Craig Williams
Ken Field
Nathan Shephard
John Nelson
Wesley Jones

Mrinmayee Bharadwaj 1 posts since Dec 15, 2016

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:40 PM

Thank you for this opportunity! It was a great learning experience for a UA person like me who consistently works with cartographers on teams like ArcGIS for Maritime.
And John Nelson - you rock Obi-wan!

Ken Field 19 posts since Jun 18, 2014

Re: May 15, 2018: Cartography. MOOC Ask Me Anything (AMA) May 15, 2018 5:38 PM
in response to Candace Loya
think Candace meant phat-typing...