

**GEOG 473/673 NEVADA PATTERNS ON THE LAND**  
**FALL '11 SYLLABUS**  
**LECTURE TR, 1:00-2:15, MS 321**

**Instructor:** Dr. Jill S. Heaton

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**Course Description** – This course is designed to introduce you to the physical, natural, cultural and political landscape of Nevada through the medium of maps supported by readings.

*“The best laid schemes of mice and men / Go oft awry”* Robert Burns – standard English translation

I have broken the course into a series of loosely defined topics. The topics we are most likely to cover, but are not necessarily limited to, in somewhat of an order include:

- The Making of Nevada
  - Statehood
  - 1867 to Present
  - Political Landscape
  - Historical Landmarks
- The Great Basin
  - Topography
  - Climate
  - Vegetation
  - Geology
- Crossing Nevada
  - Railroads
  - Trails
  - The Loneliest Road in America
- Natural Resources of Nevada
  - Mining
  - Wildlife
  - Vegetation
  - Water
- Municipal Nevada
  - Las Vegas
  - Reno
  - Other Cities
- The Other Nevada
  - Ranching
  - Brothels
- Regulated Nevada
  - Public Lands
  - Wilderness
  - Hunt Zones
  - Military

## Required Text

Either *Benchmark, Deloreme* or *NDOT Nevada Map Atlas*  
Free *NDOT Official Road Map of Nevada*  
*Course Readings and Maps*, as provided by Dr. Heaton

## Assignments

There will be no traditional closed book, pencil in hand, time limited exams in this class. However, that does not mean that I do not expect a great deal from you. Your grade will be derived from weekly assignments, a research topic, your Nevada map and journal, short presentations, and in the case of graduate students a lecture.

**Weekly Participation:** Weekly participation will include things such as comparative analysis between maps, bringing maps to class, in class writing assignments, brainstorming sessions, and participating. Pts vary by week from 10-100pts, total 580pts

**Research Written Project:** Each student will select a topic of their choosing and put together a written assignment that centers on maps, graphics, photographs, art, etc. The topic must be Nevada centric. It must be supported by a diversity of mixed media and must be woven together into a “point”. It is much like put together a poster, in which the graphics are the center piece, text is only supporting. 200pts

**Research Presentation:** Each student will briefly present their research topic to the class in 10 minutes or less. This must be done in power point or some other presentation software. 100pts

**Maps and Journal:** Each student will maintain two hardcopy maps of Nevada and an associated journal. On these maps you will demarcate as many places and regions as we talk about in class. In the associated journal you will maintain documentation of topics discussed in class including reference to each place or region that you demarcate on your maps. The first map is the free NDOT official highway map of Nevada. The second map is actually a map book. You can use *Benchmark, Deloreme, or NDOT Nevada Map Atlas*. The reason you will have two maps is that the highway map will generally demarcate areas we talk about, but you will need the large scale map books to locate and demarcate things more precisely. 500pts

Although I like the NDOT Map Atlas a lot, it contains reduced versions of the 30’ quadrangle maps (8.5 x 11). If you are near about 40yrs of age you will need some serious reading glasses. Electronic versions of different maps are available for free at [http://www.nevadadot.com/Traveler\\_Info/Maps/State\\_Maps.aspx](http://www.nevadadot.com/Traveler_Info/Maps/State_Maps.aspx)

**Graduate Student Lecture:** Graduate students must select a topic (ideally a topic already listed on the syllabus but talk to me if you would like to create your own topic and we will see if we can drop something) and present a complete lecture to the class. This will include 1) identifying supporting readings and maps; 2) presentation of lecture and all associated materials; 3) participation activities if appropriate; 4) devising and grading a weekly assignment. 200pts

**Turning in Assignments:** We will be using **WebCampus**. Some assignments will be submitted in electronic format to WebCampus. WebCampus constitutes “cloud” based computing. As a result, it is imperative that you maintain backup copies of all your assignments in the event that the “cloud” vaporizes. The **format for submission** of materials must be followed **exactly** as the examples demonstrate below.

LastNameFirstname-\*\*\*\*-MMDD

If I were submitting Nevada Statehood lecture assignment

HeatonJill-NevadaStatehood-0913

**Grades derived from:**

Assignment	Undergrads		Grads	
	Pts	%	Pts	%
Participation	590	42%	590	37%
Research Written Project	200	15%	200	13%
Research Presentation	100	8%	100	6%
Maps and Journal	500	35%	500	31%
Grad Lecture	NA		200	13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1390pts</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1590pts</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Final Grade Calculation**

93-100% (4.0)	= A	90-92.9% (3.7)	= A-
87-89.9 (3.3)	= B+	83-86.9 (3.0)	= B
80-82.9 (2.7)	= B-	77-79.9 (2.3)	= C+
73-76.9 (2.0)	= C	70-73.9 (1.7)	= C-
67-69.9 (1.3)	= D+	63-66.9 (1.0)	= D
60-63.9 (0.7)	= D-	Below 60% (0.0)	= F

**Lecture Attendance Policy** – There is no attendance policy for lecture. However, you will gain points for attending and participating in class assignments. If you don't attend you cannot earn these points. And, trust me it will be to your benefit to attend class regularly.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty is against university as well as the system community standards. Academic dishonesty is defined as: cheating, plagiarism or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses.

**Plagiarism is defined** as submitting the language, ideas, thoughts or work of another as one's own; or assisting in the act of plagiarism by allowing one's work to be used in this fashion. **Cheating is defined as** (1) obtaining or providing unauthorized information during an examination through verbal, visual or unauthorized use of books, notes, text and other materials; (2) obtaining or providing information concerning all or part of an examination prior to that examination; (3) taking an examination for another student, or arranging for another person to take an exam in one's place; (4) altering or changing test answers after submittal for grading, grades after grades have been awarded, or other academic records once these are official. For more details, see [http://www.cis.unr.edu/ecatalog/Default.aspx?article\\_list\\_id=11076](http://www.cis.unr.edu/ecatalog/Default.aspx?article_list_id=11076).

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have a disability for which you will need to request accommodations, please contact me and the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building, Suite 101) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodations. For more details, see <http://www.unr.edu/stsv/slservices/drc/index.asp>.

**GEOG 473/673 NEVADA PATTERNS ON THE LAND**  
**FALL '11 TENTATIVE/DRAFT COURSE OUTLINE**  
**LECTURE TR, 1:00-2:15, MS 321**

As of 13 September 2011 Readings are Incomplete

<b>WEEK 1</b> 30 August	<b>Lecture:</b> Introduction: course outline, syllabus, maps, readings
01 September	<b>No Class</b>
<b>WEEK 2</b> 06 September	<b>Lecture:</b> Nevada Statehood <b>Assignment:</b> Describe the European/Mexican/American evolution of the area that constitutes the modern state of Nevada covering both changes in "ownership" and "geography". Due 13 September; 20pts <b>Readings:</b> Rothman, H. K. 2010. Chapter 1: A Light Hand on a Difficult Land: European Exploration, and Chapter 2: Making a Territory and a State. <i>In Nevada: The Making of Modern Nevada.</i>
08 September	<b>Lecture:</b> 1867 to Present <b>Assignment:</b> Compare and contrast maps across timelines, record in a short written format, and turn in at end of class. You may work in groups; 20pts <b>Readings:</b> <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/row/landsurveys/Study_material/State_Boundaries/ca-nv-border-p1-2.pdf">http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/row/landsurveys/Study_material/State_Boundaries/ca-nv-border-p1-2.pdf</a>
<b>WEEK 3</b> 13 September	<b>Lecture:</b> Municipal Area I <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
15 September	<b>Lecture:</b> Political Landscape <b>Assignments:</b> Review proposed US Congressional Redistricting Maps (Democratic and Republican Plan). You may find it interesting to review districts for statewide offices, however the assignment only requires you to compare US Congressional. If for some reason, however you have a hankering for different Nevada redistricting fight let me know and we can probably let you compare that one. <a href="http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Districts/Reapp/2011/LegProposals.cfm">http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Districts/Reapp/2011/LegProposals.cfm</a> Due 27 September; 100pts
<b>WEEK 4</b> 20 September	<b>Field Trip:</b> Ansari Map Library, DeLeMare
22 September	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Danny Tayler: Mining <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
<b>WEEK 5</b> 27 September	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Pat Cashman: Geology <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts <b>Readings:</b> McPhee <i>Basin and Range</i> , pages 31-79; 91-99.
29 September	<b>Lecture:</b> Great Basin <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights Great Basin. 20pts <b>Readings:</b> These readings cover this week and next week Trimble, <i>The Sagebrush Ocean</i> , Chapters 1 and 2 McPhee. <i>Basin and Range</i> , pages 46-57
<b>WEEK 6</b> 04 October	<b>Lecture:</b> Great Basin Topography Climate <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights Great Basin Topography or Climate. 20 pts
06 October	<b>Field Trip: Nevada Museum of Art: Sierra Nevada/Great Basin and Altered Landscapes</b> <b>Assignment:</b> Two Parts- First part, identify one piece of art work from the Sierra Nevada/Great Basin collection and discuss in a half to one full page the artwork. Pick something that interest you, because if I were you I would hate to write about something that did not inspire me. Second part, select one of the individual or series of Nevada photos in Altered Landscapes (Pyramid Lake; Peter Goin Nevada Test Site; Great Basin National Park, Boulder Dam, Ruby Valley Treaty Site, Luxor, Hotel at Man Made Lake Las Vegas, Desert Hills, or any other photo that was taken in Nevada) and compare and contrast it in a modern context.

	DO NOT FORGET to include a map showing the location of each piece of artwork. 50pts each; total 100pts
<b>WEEK 7</b>	
11 October	<b>Lecture:</b> No Class
13 October	<b>Lecture:</b> No Class
<b>WEEK 8</b>	
18 October	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Kate Berry: Water <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
20 October	<b>Graduate Student Lecture:</b> Amanda Roberts: Water <b>Assignment:</b> TBD 10pts
<b>WEEK 9</b>	
25 October	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Paul Starrs: Land Ownership Patterns <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights any sort of Nevada landownership-be prepared to discuss if called upon. 20pts
27 October	<b>Lecture:</b> Vegetation <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights any sort of Nevada vegetation-be prepared to discuss if called upon. 20pts
<b>WEEK 10</b>	
01 November	<b>Lecture:</b> Wildlife <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights any form of Nevada wildlife-be prepared to discuss if called upon. 20pts
03 November	<b>Lecture:</b> John Tull: Wilderness <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
<b>WEEK 11</b>	
08 November	<b>Graduate Student Lecture:</b> Zach Erickson: Wilderness <b>Great Basin Consortium First Annual Conference (UNR) (7-9 November)</b> <b>Assignment:</b> Attend two research presentations. Locate and demarcate on a map the area/place in which the research took place. Write a half page summary of each presentation. Due 17 November; 50pts total.
10 November	<b>Lecture:</b> Nevada Landmarks <b>Assignment:</b> Visit one state landmark and turn in a photograph of said landmark and map showing its location. What did you learn? Due 29 November; 50pts <b>Reading:</b> <a href="http://www.nevada-landmarks.com/">http://www.nevada-landmarks.com/</a>
<b>WEEK 12</b>	
15 November	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Donnie Curtis, Director of Research Collections & Services, Municipal Area II: <b>Assignment:</b> TBD; 20pts
17 November	<b>Lecture:</b> Municipal Area III <b>Assignment:</b> TBD; 20pts
<b>WEEK 13</b>	
22 November	<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Jeneane Harter; Architect of the State of Nevada Renewable Energy Policy; Renewable Energy <b>Assignment:</b> Bring one map to class that highlights any form of Nevada renewable energy-be prepared to discuss if called upon. 20pts
24 November	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
<b>WEEK 14</b>	
29 November	<b>Graduate Student Lecture:</b> Helene Seelye:
01 December	<b>Lecture:</b> Ranching <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
<b>WEEK 15</b>	
06 December	<b>Lecture:</b> Brothels <b>Assignment:</b> discussion and participation. Nothing to turn in, just participate. 10pts
08 December	<b>Research Presentations:</b> 10 minute Research Topic Presentation. 100pts
<b>WEEK 16</b>	
13 December	FINALS WEEK STARTS Wednesday <b>Research Presentations:</b> 10 minute Research Topic Presentation. 100pts
<b>Week 17</b>	
20 December	Final: 5:00-7:00pm

