Independent Research in Geography GEH 490  
Workshop in GISc Research GEP 690  
4 credits;  
Instructor: Dr. Juliana Maantay; tel: (718) 960-8574  
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Class Meeting Place: Gillet, Room 315 (Cartography Lab);  
Class Meeting Times: TBA; Class participants will meet at least four scheduled times, and as needed.  

Course Description:  
This course is intended to provide the student with a solid grounding in research design and methodology by designing and conducting a GIS research project. Projects are to be substantive and original research efforts conforming to generally acceptable professional geographical practices and techniques.  

Required Reading:  

Course Timetable:  

Week 1 - Meet to discuss course requirements, reading materials, and preliminary research concepts  

Weeks 1-4:  
Read Chapters 1, 2, and 3 ("The Nature of Scientific Research," "Defining Geographic Problems," and "Formation of the Research Design");  
· Select research topic, and conduct literature review on topic, examine other research on topic;  
· Prepare written Initial Research Design, including hypothesis or questions to be answered;  
· Conduct a Preliminary Data Needs Assessment and Data Acquisition;  

Week 5 - Presentation of Preliminary Research Design and literature review  

Weeks 5-8:  
Read Chapters 4 and 6 ("Acquisition of Relevant Data," and "Analysis of Data");  
· Refine research methodology;  
· Capture and input necessary data;  
· Preliminary data analysis;  

Week 9 - Interim Progress Report on research projects
Weeks 9-12:
Read Chapter 7 ("Automation in Geographic Research: Searching Sources, Information Capture, Mapping, and GIS");
· Analysis of data;
· Preliminary map and charts production;
· Prepare preliminary findings;

Week 13 - Presentation of Research Results

Week 13-15:
Read Chapter 8 ("Writing Geographic Research Reports");
· Prepare final maps and charts and written report of findings;

Week 15 - Final Project Due (all materials to be submitted no later than December 19, 2001)