

# GEOGRAPHY 176C FINAL EXAM

The final in 176C is a take-home exam, due by email to [good@geog.ucsb.edu](mailto:good@geog.ucsb.edu) on or before the evening of Friday May 25. It consists of an analysis and evaluation of an existing project of your choice, applying the principles of GIS, including those discussed in 176C lectures and the textbook. Suggested criteria appear below, but you are free to select from among these and also to add your own. The completed exam should be 4-5 pages in length.

Each of you will need to choose a unique project and to have it approved by Professor Goodchild. The best projects to choose will be ones for which plenty of information is available. You will need to request approval of your choice by email to [good@geog.ucsb.edu](mailto:good@geog.ucsb.edu) as soon as possible, and no later than the evening of Friday May 18. You will be notified immediately if your choice has already been taken or if it is unacceptable for any other reason. A URL or bibliographic reference will be sufficient to identify the project.

## Criteria

1. Is this a discovery project, a service project, or some combination?
2. Does the project clearly identify its objectives, its use cases, and the audience the project is intended to inform?
3. What can you determine about the scale, positional accuracy, and spatial resolution of the project's data and outputs? What other issues of uncertainty can you identify?
4. What were the sources of the data? Are any metadata available, and is anything known about the data's provenance or lineage?
5. Is the user interface easy and intuitive to navigate? Does it assume basic GIS familiarity, or would it be accessible to a child of 10?
6. What use does the project make of GIS software and functionality? What software elements does it use (e.g., ArcGIS Server, ArcMap)?
7. Can you suggest ways of improving the project, given what you know of its objectives, use cases, and audience?