Computer Applications in Heritage Resource Studies (a sample syllabus)
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Philosophy:
Traditionally, HRS professionals have relied on drawings, photographs, documents, and maps to provide insight into the past, to investigate the built environment, and to study cultural landscapes. Increasingly, they are taking advantage of technology to help organize, view and understand these sources of information. This course will provide an introduction to two different types of computer technologies frequently used in this capacity, including AutoCAD drafting and ArcView geographic information systems (GIS). The class will also explore the various means of transmitting this information to others, such as the internet and CD-ROM's. Through lecture, hands-on experience, and projects, students will explore the possibilities of using technology in the field of HRS, to provide new means of documenting, interpreting, and analyzing cultural resources.

The class will follow the format of a lecture, followed by discussion, and ending with an in-class lab exercise on the computer. This class may also require additional fieldwork to collect data for use in the GIS portion of the class, all other data will be provided for the students.

Required Readings:
Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. *Introduction to ArcView GIS.*
Smith, Bud and Arthur Bebok. *Web Design for Dummies.*
Frey, David. *AutoCAD 2000*

Assignments:
The course will be graded in two major areas:
1. Participation. I feel that participation on the class is essential. Each student will be responsible for leading class discussion each week by preparing ten questions for the class. Furthermore, students should practice classwork on their own time and be prepared for in-class projects. Class discussions and preparation for class will account for 25 percent of the grade.
2. Three projects. During the course, one project will be assigned for each different technology. Each of these will be completed on the computer and in groups. The CAD project will include creation of floorplans and details from fieldnotes of several Bristol buildings. The GIS project will combine the CAD drawings and other digital data to create a profile of the Bristol historic district. The Communication project will be designed to transmit the information your group creates to the public.

    In addition, a short 1-3 page summary of each project, documenting the steps in organization of the project, as well as methodology used to complete the project, will be required and turned in by each student with the computer portion of each assignment. Papers should be typed, paginated and illustrated with your data (if needed). Each project will be worth 25 percent, for a total of 75 percent of the grade.

Schedule of class:

September	
1	Introduction: pass out syllabus, discuss class, and assign dates of class discussions. Discuss computer programs and how HRS uses them. Examine computers and discuss familiarity.
8	Read *AutoCAD 2000* selected readings. Discuss uses of AutoCAD. Explore its basic parts and controls. Begin to input data.
15	Continue to explore AutoCAD. Continue CAD drawing of building.
22	Continue to explore AutoCAD. Continue CAD drawing of building.
29	Continue to explore AutoCAD. Continue CAD drawing of building.
October	
6	Read *Introduction to GIS*. Discuss uses of GIS for HRS. Explore GIS basic parts. Begin to input data.
13	Continue to explore GIS. Continue GIS input of data.
20	Continue to explore GIS. Continue GIS input of data.
27	Continue to explore GIS. Continue GIS input of data.
November	
3	Read *Web Design for Dummies*. Discuss uses of internet and CD-ROM technologies for HRS. Explore basic parts of design program. Begin layout of page.
10	Continue to explore layout program. Continue to layout webpage and input data.
17	Continue to explore layout program. Continue to layout webpage and input data.
Thanksgiving	No class.
December	
1	Continue to explore layout program. Continue to layout webpage and input data.
8	No class. Release time for working on projects. Professor will be available to consult during class time.
Final Exams	All project due. Presentations of projects and discussion.

(This section drawn from personal experience.)

Paper Return Policy:
All papers are kept on file in the instructor's office during the semester. On the day a paper is handed back, students will be given the opportunity to review their performance and ask questions. Students may also review papers by coming to the instructor's office during office hours.

Computer Problems:
When completing all assignments, students are expected to allow sufficient time for computer-related problems, including printing. However, every student in the course is allotted one (1), and only one, computer "freebie" for the semester with respect to late assignments. This "freebie" will be permitted, provided that the student notifies the instructor before class and turns the assignment in within 24 hours.