

University of Southern Maine ANE 633 [GEO 450]

# THE MAPPING OF NEW ENGLAND

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Osher Chair in the History of Cartography

Spring 2009



## COURSE GUIDE & SYLLABUS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Maps are more than simple statements of geographic fact: they are products of human ingenuity. Humans have made maps—from words, gestures, and rituals, as well as from ink on paper or pixels on digital monitors—to organize their world, to help them comprehend it, and to aid them in modifying it. All maps are thus conceptual images as much as instrumental devices. They are grounded in the cultural conventions that define their representational strategies on the one hand and, on the other, in the social functions that underpin their production and consumption.

This course combines recent scholarship on the nature and history of maps, original materials from USM's Osher Map Library, and digital resources available on the Internet to explore the role of maps in the social and cultural history of New England, and the USA more generally, especially in terms of establishing fundamental spatial conceptions such as that of "New England" itself.

### COURSE GOALS

This course introduces students to the study of maps as cultural texts, establishing another rich and productive approach to the study of human cultures and societies. More particularly, it seeks to provide:

- 1) theoretical frameworks and skill sets for analyzing maps as cultural products by (a) reading maps as texts and (b) establishing the scope and nature of specific cartographic discourses;
- 2) experience in analyzing maps as cultural products within the institutional setting of archives or special library collections; and
- 3) a firm knowledge base for the history of the cartographies associated with the U.S.A and New England in the colonial and modern eras.

It is hoped that students will, by the end of the course, be able to make significant contributions to the still inchoate critical scholarship on maps and mapping.

## COURSE ASSESSMENT

### **Undergraduate Component (GEO 450)**

Undergraduate students enrolled under GEO 450 will undertake the same class activities as the graduate students, with the same deadlines. The assessment and grading of their work will, however, be more relaxed.

### **Graduate Component (ANE 633)**

*Weekly Responses: 20%*

Students prepare responses to each week's map readings (except for weeks 1 and 2). Using the considerations for reading maps (distributed and explained in week 2), students should explore the **contemporary** significance of the map readings, assess the maps' intended audience (including the maps' artifactual nature), and posit the maps' function(s). Connections should be drawn as appropriate to the course readings and themes.

The responses will be submitted by email—whether as an attachment (Word, WordPerfect, etc.) or in the body of the email—**before 8.00pm** the evening before class. They will be returned at the start of class, with appropriate annotations. This feedback loop provides an opportunity to flag especially well-formulated or original observations, in the hope that students will raise them in class.

Each week's response should be 2-3 pages, double-spaced, written in proper English sentences. Please remember to include name and week number/topic.

*Papers: 60%*

Students write three papers; their respective deadlines are listed in the following syllabus:

The first, of 5 pages, comprises a textual reading of a map. It will count for 10% of the overall evaluation.

The second, of 5-7 pages, comprises a contextual analysis of a different map. It will also count for 15% of the overall evaluation.

The third, of 10-12 pages, will expand either of the first papers by combining both textual and contextual analyses. It will count for 35% of the overall evaluation.

*Participation: 20%*

The final portion of the course assessment will be assessed according to class participation: being fully prepared for each class meeting, engaged with the material, and willing to raise and discuss issues.

## **PRAGMATICS, STRUCTURAL CONSTRAINTS, AND INSTITUTIONAL IMPOSITIONS**

### **Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education [OML]**

This course has traditionally met within USM's Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education (OML), situated on the ground floor of the Glickman Family Library on USM's Portland campus. In Spring 2009, however, OML will still be in the process of

reorganizing itself subsequent to its physical expansion and reconstruction; this means that class will be held in the library space, with original materials, only when (and as soon as) those materials can be made available. (The key issue is to ensure the secure and safe reinstallation of the rare collections according to protocols necessary for the handling of special materials.) Until class can be properly housed in OML, it will meet in its scheduled classroom space.

As with all other archives and special collections, the use of OML collections is carefully regulated in order to preserve the materials for future generations. All students must adhere to all stipulated rules and they must obey any further instructions they might receive from OML staff. The rules have not been formulated to inconvenience any one individual but are universally applied; they meet current best practices of the professional associations of librarians.

### **Further Professional Complexities**

In addition to my position at USM, I also direct the History of Cartography Project at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. This work requires my presence in Madison once per month. I am available by email when in Madison and I encourage students to contact me if they should have any questions.

### **Course Organization and Logistics**

#### *Class Meeting*

4.10-6.40pm Monday in 423-24 Glickman Library, Portland Campus. This room is directly across the lobby from the elevators. As noted, the class will move at some indeterminate time into the seminar room in OML.

#### *Office Hours*

12.00-2.00pm Monday, or by appointment.

#### *Office Location*

My regular office is in OML (112 Glickman Family Library). But until I can move back into that office (which should happen long before we can move materials back in to the library space), I will be using the seminar room in the ANES house (or any other suitable location) to meet with students.

#### *Contact Details*

Telephone and fax (780-4767, -5310) should function once I have returned to my office within OML.

**Email is by far the best way to contact me.** I use two email accounts: [edney@wisc.edu](mailto:edney@wisc.edu) and [edney@usm.maine.edu](mailto:edney@usm.maine.edu). Both go into the same unified mail system, so please do not use both at the same time! It will help me greatly if you start the subject line of any email with ANE 633. Please note that email from me will either be from the wisc.edu account or (if generated from within Blackboard) my UMS account that I do not otherwise use.

Campus mail can be sent to me at “Osher Map Library, Portland Campus,” U. S. mail to “Osher

Map Library, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME 04104-9301.”

*IMPORTANT:* all time-sensitive materials—especially papers submitted close to a deadline—must be left for me at OML. Other materials may be left for me in my mailbox in the serials office on the third floor of the library. Please do **not** leave anything for me in the ANES house or the Geography-Anthropology department.

*Important Point re Email*

I will be using Blackboard (USM’s online asynchronous learning environment) for its handy mechanisms for emailing students en masse. (Students themselves will **not** be using Blackboard as part of this course.) Blackboard (and for that matter, the university for all sorts of communication) sends email only to students’ University of Maine System (UMS) email accounts; UMS usernames are generally of the form first.last@maine.edu. If students do not regularly use this account, they must ensure that they set forwarding instructions so that emails are redirected to the appropriate account. To forward official email, log into the UMS email web server ([mail.maine.edu](mailto:mail.maine.edu)), select the link for “Change the destination of email ...,” and follow the instructions.

Please contact the USM helpdesk (780-4029 or [helpdesk@usm.maine.edu](mailto:helpdesk@usm.maine.edu)) if you have any problems with your UMS email account.

*Readings and Other Key Documents*

Unless specified, textual and cartographic readings are on electronic reserve: go to the USM Libraries homepage ([docutek.ursus.maine.edu](http://docutek.ursus.maine.edu)), select “Electronic Reserves,” and follow the instructions.

Please note that the password for this course in this semester is “ubasz5k” (case sensitive, no quotation marks).

«Location codes» for readings in the following syllabus are as follows:

JCB = the Archive of Early Images maintained by the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University.

LC-GMD = Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. Map collections.

Rumsey = online images from David Rumsey’s collection.

URSUS = online journal accessible through UMS library catalog.

In addition, copies of key documents will also be published to my own website, [usm.maine.edu/~edney](http://usm.maine.edu/~edney). This includes a list of handy-dandy websites for images. Follow the first link on this website, for “Courses and related materials.”

*Important Note re Copyright*

Many of the items we’ll be looking at this semester—copies of publications but especially the copies of maps—are subject to copyright, use right, or perhaps both. These materials are provided to students for educational purposes only and are **not** to be used further without appropriate permissions.

## *Weather*

In case of bad weather, students should check with USM's "storm line" (780-4800 or 1-800-800-4876; TTY 780-5034 or 1-800-294-0213) in case classes have been canceled. A decision to cancel evening classes is generally made by 2.00pm, but it may be made later if weather suddenly worsens.

## *Academic Integrity*

Plagiarism, cheating, and falsification of information are violations of academic integrity that will not be tolerated in this class. While I would like to think that graduate students know better than to succumb to such behavior, it has been known to happen. (For example, a recent PhD student from Cambridge University plagiarized me in a manuscript submitted to a major journal!) So, please check the website of the USM Office of Community Standards for official definitions of these inappropriate practices: [usm.maine.edu/ocs/policy.html](http://usm.maine.edu/ocs/policy.html).

## **SYLLABUS**

*Please note that I reserve the right to change the following as necessary.*

### **I. MAPS AS TEXTS**

#### 1 26 Jan COURSE INTRODUCTION / ICONOGRAPHIC READING OF MAPS

##### *Reading*

Schulz, Juergen. "Jacopo de' Barbari's View of Venice: Map Making, City Views, and Moralized Cartography before the Year 1500," *Art Bulletin* 60.3 (1978): 425-74. «URSUS»

##### *Map*

Barbari, Jacopo de'. *Veneti[a]e*. Venice, 1500.

#### 2 2 Feb SEMIOTIC ANALYSIS OF MAPS

##### *Readings*

Clarke, G. N. G. "Taking Possession: The Cartouche as Cultural Text in Eighteenth-Century American Maps." *Word & Image* 4 (1988): 455-74.

Wood, Denis. "The Interest is Embodied in the Map in Signs and Myths." In his *The Power of Maps*, 95-107. New York: Guilford Press, 1992.

##### *Maps*

[Green, John.] *Map of the Most Inhabited Part of New England*. London: Thomas Jefferys, 1755. «LC-GMD»

Mitchell, John. *Map of the British and French Dominions in North America*.

London: Andrew Millar, 1755. «LC-GMD»

*Project*

Exercise (first map response) set, to be completed in preparation for Week 3. Map responses thereafter due each week.

5 Feb **ANES Alumni Lecture, Kathryn Edney, Michigan State University**

“The Stories they Tell, the Histories they Perform: Modern African American Musicals and American Memory.”

7:00pm, University Events Room, USM Glickman Library, Portland

3 9 Feb CLOSE READING OF A MAP

*Readings*

Roy, Leonard Cornell. “From Notch to Notch in the White Mountains.” *National Geographic Magazine* 72.1 (1937): 73-104.

Tatham, David. “Franklin Leavitt’s Pictorial Maps of the White Mountains.” In *Prints of New England*, ed. Georgia Brady Barnhill, 105-34. Worcester, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society, 1991.

*Maps*

*The White Mountains*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 1937.

Leavitt, Franklin. *Leavitt’s Map with Views of the White Mountains*. Boston: A. Williams, 1871. «[vc.lib.harvard.edu/vc/deliver/~maps/009548124](http://vc.lib.harvard.edu/vc/deliver/~maps/009548124)»

*Project*

First paper set, due in class, 23 February.

16 Feb **no class: February Break**

**II. MAPS IN CONTEXT**

4 23 Feb WHY ARE MAPS MADE AND READ?

*Readings*

Wood, Denis. “Maps are Embedded in a History They Help Construct.” In his *The Power of Maps* (New York: Guilford Press, 1992), 28-47.

Edney, Matthew H. 2007. “Mapping Parts of the World.” In *Maps: Finding Our Place in the World*, ed. James R. Akerman and Robert W. Karrow, Jr., 117-57. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

*Maps*

*Rambles through Our Country*. Hartford, Conn.: American Publishing Co., 1881. «Rumsey»

Phelps & Watson's New Map of the United States. New York: Phelps & Watson, 1860. «Rumsey»

*Population: Distribution of Sexes, by Counties. (Based on the Returns of the Tenth Census.)* 1880. In Fletcher W. Hewes and Henry Gannett, *Scribner's Statistical Atlas of the United States Showing by Graphic Methods their Present Condition and their Political, Social and Industrial Development*, map 23. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1883. «Rumsey»

*Project*

First Paper due.

5 2 Mar LAND SURVEY AND SUBDIVISION

*Readings*

Blake, James, Jr. "Upon our Needle we depend" (1730).

Pearce, Margaret Wickens. "Native Mapping in Southern New England Indian Deeds." In *Cartographic Encounters: Perspectives on Native American Mapmaking and Map Use*, ed. G. Malcolm Lewis, 157-86. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998.

DeRogatis, Amy. *Moral Geography: Maps, Missionaries, and the American Frontier*, 1-60, 90-126, and 180-83. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

*Maps*

Godsoe, William. "A Plott of Mr. Humphrey Chadburns Farm att sturgen creek taken October 6th-7th-1701 By me Wm. Godsoe." 1701. Kittery Town Archives.

[Broadside] *At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Township of Brunswick in the County of York . . . on January 4th 1753 with A True Cobby from an Ancient Plan of E Hutchinson's Esqr; & from Jose Heath In 1719. & Phins: Jones's Survey in 1731. & from John North's Late Survey in 1752. Attest Thos Johnston.* [Boston], [1753].

Student's choice: one of the survey plans from Frances Pollitt's web exhibit on "Colonial Cartography: The Plymouth Company Maps," Maine Memory Network. «[www.mainememory.net](http://www.mainememory.net)»

*Project*

Second paper set, due in class, 30 March.

6 9 Mar THE GEOGRAPHICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION OF SPACE (ANTEBELLUM EXAMPLES)

*Readings*

Richards, Penny L. "'Could I but Mark Out My Own Map of Life': Educated Women Embracing Cartography in the Nineteenth-Century Antebellum South." *Cartographica* 39, no. 3 (2004): 1-17. «URSUS»

Schulten, Susan. "Emma Willard and the Graphic Foundations of American

History." *Journal of Historical Geography* 33, no. 3 (2007): 542-64. «URSUS»

Bernstein, David. "'We are not now as we once were': Iowa Indians' Political and Economic Adaptations during U.S. Incorporation." *Ethnohistory* 54, no. 4 (2007): 605-37.

*Maps*

Phelps, H. *The World at One View*. New York: Ensign, Bridgman & Fanning, 1852. «Rumsey»

11 Mar **ANES Lecture. Thomas Andrew Denenberg, Acting Director and Chief Curator, Portland Museum of Art**

"Winslow Homer's Place in the Portland Museum of Art"

5:00pm, University Events Room, USM Glickman Library, Portland

7 16 Mar GEOGRAPHY, MOBILITY, AND THE CONCEPTUALIZATION OF SPACE

*Readings*

Dando, Christina E. "Riding the Wheel: Selling American Women Mobility and Geographic Knowledge." *ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies* «[www.acme-journal.org](http://www.acme-journal.org)» 6, no. 2 (2007): 174-210.

Akerman, James R. "Twentieth-Century American Road Maps and the Making of a National Motorized Space." In *Cartographies of Travel and Navigation*, ed. James R. Akerman, 151-206. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.

*Maps*

French, Robert. *The American Way*. Web exhibition, 13 Feb 2001–21 Dec 2001. «[usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit9](http://usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit9)»

23 Mar **no class: Spring Break**

8 30 Mar GOVERNMENTALITY AND THEMATIC MAPPING

*Readings*

Hannah, Matthew G. *Governmentality and the Mastery of Territory in Nineteenth-Century America*, 107-59. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Kinnahan, Thomas P. "Charting Progress: Francis Amasa Walker's Statistical Atlas of the United States and Narratives of Western Expansion." *American Quarterly* 60, no. 2 (2008): 399-423. «URSUS»

Dando, Christina E. "'The Map Proves It': Map Use by the American Woman Suffrage Movement." Work in progress.

*Maps*

*Won't You Help Make Texas White?*. Austin, Tex.: Austin Women's Suffrage Association, 1916.

Hewes, Fletcher W., and Henry Gannett. *Scribner's Statistical Atlas of the United States Showing by Graphic Methods their Present Condition and their Political, Social and Industrial Development*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1883. «Rumsey»

*Project*

Second paper due.

9 6 Apr COMMERCIAL AND POPULAR MAPPING

*Readings*

Schein, Richard H. "Representing Urban America: 19th-Century Views of Landscape, Space, and Power." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 11 (1993): 7-21.

Lyon-Jenness, C. "Picturing Progress: Assessing the Nineteenth-Century Atlas-Map Bonanza." In *Mapping in Michigan and the Great Lakes Region*, ed. David I. MacLeod, 209-39. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2008.

Buehler, Michael. "Henry F. Walling and the Mapping of New England's Towns, 1849-1857." *The Portolan*, no. 71 (2008): 22-33.

*Maps*

Cullum, John. *A Map of the City of Portland with the Latest Improvements*. Portland, Me.: John Cullum, 1836.

Walling, H. F. *Map of the City of Portland, Cumberland County, Maine*. N.p.: n.p., 1851. «Rumsey»

*Project*

Third paper set, due at class time, 11 May.

10 Apr **OML Lecture. Michael Robinson, Hartford University**

"The Coldest Crucible: Arctic Exploration in American Culture." Portland Museum of Art, Museum Auditorium, at 12.00 noon. This lecture is in conjunction with the exhibition of the same name, which runs in the print gallery on the second floor of the Portland Museum of Art, 14 March through 21 June 2009, in honor of the International Polar Year.

**III. MAPPING NEW ENGLAND**

10 13 Apr INITIAL CONCEPTIONS AND IMPERIAL CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ENGLAND

*Readings*

D'Abate, Richard. "On the Meaning of a Name: 'Norumbega' and the Representation of North America." In *American Beginnings: Exploration, Culture, and Cartography in the Land of Norumbega*, ed. Emerson W. Baker et al., 61-88.

Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994.

Harley, J. B. "New England Cartography and the Native Americans." In Harley, *The New Nature of Maps*, ed. Paul Laxton, 169-95. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001. (Originally published in *American Beginnings*, ed. Baker et al., 287-313.)

Edney, Matthew H., and Susan Cimburek. "Telling The Traumatic Truth: William Hubbard's Narrative of King Philip's War and his 'Map of New-England'." *William & Mary Quarterly* 3s 61 (2004): 317-48.

#### Maps

Smith, John. *The Portraicture of Captayne John Smith | New England The most remarqueable parts thus named*. London: Robert Clerke, [1617].

Wood, William. *The South Part of New-England, as it is Planted this yeare, 1635*. From Wood's *New Englands Prospect*. London: John Bellamie, 1635. «JCB»

16 Apr **ANES Student Research Panel. Donna Damon, Todd Nicholson, Michelle Smith**  
time and place TBA

11 20 Apr CARTOGRAPHIC CULTURES OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC

#### Readings

Brückner, Martin. "Lessons in Geography: Maps, Spellers, and Other Grammars of Nationalism in the Early Republic." *American Quarterly* 51 (1999): 311-43.  
«URSUS»

Jaffee, David. "Curiosities Encountered: James Wilson and Provincial Cartography in the United States, 1790-1840." *Common-Place* «[www.common-place.org](http://www.common-place.org)» 4, no. 2 (2004).

Conforti, Joseph A. "Regionalism and Nationalism in the Early Republic: The American Geographies of Jedidiah Morse." In his *Imagining New England: Explorations of Regional Identity from the Pilgrims to the Mid-Twentieth Century*, 79-122. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001.

#### Maps

*Mapping the Republic: Conflicting Concepts of the Territory and Character of the U.S.A., 1790-1900*. Web exhibition, 15 May 2003–29 May 2004.  
«[usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit11](http://usm.maine.edu/maps/exhibit11)»

12 27 Apr EARLY MAPPING OF THE NORTH EASTERN STATES

#### Readings

Danforth, Susan L. "The First Official Maps of Maine and Massachusetts," *Imago Mundi* 35 (1983): 37-57.

Demeritt, David. "Representing the 'True' St. Croix: Knowledge and Power in

the Partition of the Northeast." *William & Mary Quarterly* 3s 54 (1997): 515-48.

Mano, Jo Margaret. "Unmapping the Iroquois: New York State Cartography, 1792-1845." In *The Oneida Indian Journey: From New York to Wisconsin, 1784-1860*, ed. Laurence M. Hauptman and L. Gordon McLester III, 171-95. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1999.

#### *Maps*

Carleton, Osgood. *Map Of Massachusetts Proper Compiled from Actual Surveys, made by Order of the General Court, and under the inspection of Agents of their appointment*. Boston: Joseph Callender and Samuel Hill, Boston, 1801. «Rumsey»

De Witt, Simeon. *A Map of the State Of New York*. Albany, 1802. «LC-GMD»

13 4 May TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPPING OF THE NEW ENGLAND STATES

#### *Readings*

Poor, John A., A. D. Lockwood, and Hannibal Hamlin. *Report of the Commissioners of the Hydrographic Survey of the State of Maine, 1867*. Augusta: Owen & Nash, 1868.

Ryden, Kent. "'A Labyrinth of Errors': Thoreau, Cartography, & The Maine Woods." In his *Landscape with Figures: Nature & Culture in New England*, 96-134. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2001.

#### *Maps*

Student's choice of two maps from H. D. Thoreau's personal archive at the Concord Free Public Library «[www.concordlibrary.org/scollect/Thoreau Surveys/Thoreau Surveys.htm](http://www.concordlibrary.org/scollect/Thoreau_Surveys/Thoreau_Surveys.htm)»

11 May COURSE WRAP-UP, EXTRA SPACE FOR SNOW DAY, ETC.

#### *Project*

Third Paper Due