

**Request for a Nonstandard Course Calendar
Submitted 12/19/2014**

Name of contact person for the proposal.

The lead faculty member for this request is Prof. Matthew Zook who can be reached at zook@uky.edu or 859-218-0955.

We are requesting a recurring, non-standard calendar of ten weeks for ten new courses that are part of a new online graduate certificate and Masters degree.

Course prefix and number.

This request is for ten courses that are currently undergoing the review process as new courses. These courses are part of ongoing proposals to create an online *graduate certificate* and a *master's degree* in digital mapping.

MAP671-Introduction to New Mapping
MAP672-Programming for Web Mapping
MAP673-Design for Interactive Web Mapping
MAP701-History of Critical Cartography
MAP719-Social Impacts of New Mapping
MAP674-Spatial Data Analysis and Visualization
MAP675-Collaborative Geovisualization
MAP695-Special Topics in Digital Mapping
MAP698-Final Project Preparation
MAP699-Final Project Implementation

Proposed start and end date for the course.

In order to design an initiative around ten week courses we have devised an alternative yearly schedule consisting of four ten week course periods and four breaks of two to six weeks. This ensures that courses can be regularly offered and also provides time for revising and updating course material during the break periods. It also provides the means to construct a steady and controlled roll-out of courses so that prerequisites are offered on an ongoing and regular basis.

The schedule also overlaps at key moments with the existing academic calendar, most notably, our proposed Fall session is complete within the Fall semester and our proposed Winter session is within the Spring semester.

The proposed non-standard course calendar will adhere to the following scheduling rules.

- The exact dates of the four course periods and four breaks will be fixed to the yearly schedule of the University of Kentucky.
- More specifically, the start of the ten week Winter session will be the Monday following the start of the official Spring semester of the University of Kentucky.
- The starting dates for the remaining three course periods (each ten weeks long) will be adjusted by varying the length of the break periods (between two and six weeks) as necessary to conform to UK registrar requirements.

We have met with David Timoney of the Registrar's Office and he has confirmed that this calendar can work with UK systems.

A mock-up of the proposed schedule (with the first session beginning in the Fall 2015 semester) based on these scheduling rules is below.

		Wks	671 Intro	672 Program ming	673 Design	674 Spatial Analysis	675 Collabor ative GeoViz	701 History	719 Seminar	698 Final Proj Prep.	699 Final Proj. Implem.
Fall Session	10/4/2015 to 12/12/2015	10	Week1 Week10								
Winter Break	12/13/2015 to 1/16/2016	5									
Winter Session	1/17/2016 to 3/26/2016	10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10				Week1 Week10			
Spring Break	3/27/2016 to 4/9/2016	2									
Spring Session	4/10/2016 to 6/18/2016	10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10				Week1 Week10		
Summer Break	6/19/2016 to 7/9/2016	3									
Summer Session	7/10/2016 to 9/17/2016	10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10		Week1 Week10			
Fall Break	9/18/2016 to 10/1/2016	2									
Fall Session	10/2/2016 to 12/10/2016	10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10			Week1 Week10		Week1 Week10		
Winter Break	12/11/2016 to 1/21/2017	6									
Winter Session	1/21/2017 to 4/1/2017	10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10	Week1 Week10		Week1 Week10		Students begin final projects after completing all required courses.	

One time only or recurring basis

We are requesting this nonstandard course calendar on a recurring basis as these course will be taught as part of our an ongoing program (graduate certificate and Masters) that is currently under the review process.

Justification for the request

The target population for these courses is expected to be working adults who wish to pursue a course in digital mapping and value the flexibility that an online course provides. Given the background of our expected students (working adults) we have designed a course structure of ten weeks rather than the traditional semester system. This has a number of key advantages including the ability for students to start taking classes at four different times in the course of the year. We anticipate this to be very useful to working students who lives are not organized around a two semester system and should better serve them.

All courses are designed around a length of ten weeks rather than the traditional 16 week semester and given the compressed time schedule the course work (both in class time and assignments) is much more intensive in order to provide the same level of instruction.

Actual or potential violation of *Senate Rules 5.2.2*("Student Load")

We have reviewed Senate Rule 5.2.2 and have determined that there will be no actual or potential violations to the student load restrictions outlined there.