

Geodesy

Natural Resources Management and Engineering 4545, Fall 2008

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WB Young 308

860/486-2840

Course Overview

Students are required to learn to set up and operate spirit levels and total stations for fieldwork exercises. Students will perform a vertical and horizontal control survey around a course of existing monuments with the purpose of computing the NAVD 88 elevations and NAD83 SPCS planimetric coordinates of the markers. Fieldwork procedures will be covered during laboratory but students should expect to perform much of the fieldwork on their own time. Students will use their knowledge of geodesy to reduce their measurements onto the GRS 80 reference ellipsoid in the NAD83 reference frame and compute geodetic coordinates of the stations. They will mathematically project the geodetic coordinates onto the mapping plane (SPCS83, CT0600) and compare distances and angles in all the coordinate systems presented in class.

Each student will perform all tasks of both surveys, meaning taking measurements, setting up reflectors and holding the stadia rods. Students will perform simple adjustments to improve their measurements and recompute closures for comparison with non-adjusted results.

Instructional Objectives

The pragmatic objective of this course is to provide the student with the scientific knowledge and technical skills to correctly produce planimetric grid coordinates (e.g., State Plane Coordinate System) using opto-mechanical instruments, like total stations. The conceptual objective of this course is for the student to acquire both an overview and specific understanding of geometrical geodesy, physical geodesy and analytical cartography such is necessary to rigorously achieve the pragmatic objective.

Over the course of the semester the student will gain an understanding of

- differential leveling and traversing with a total station,
- observation reductions,
- horizontal geodetic datums,
- geometrical geodesy,
- physical geodesy,
- analytical cartography, especially conformal projections, as applied to formal mapping systems.

The topics to be covered in the lecture include

- Horizontal Geodetic Datums
 - What are horizontal geodetic datums? Why is there more than one of them? Which ones are in use?
- Geometrical Geodesy
 - Reference ellipsoids
 - Geopotential vs. geometric
 - The relationship between reference ellipsoids and datums
 - Flattening, eccentricity, radii of curvature
 - Coordinate Systems
 - ECEF, ENU, Geodetic, Conversions
 - Distances
 - Spatial, horizontal, ellipsoid chord, chord to normal section, geodesics
 - Angles
 - Horizontal, vertical (zenith, angle of elevation), dihedral
 - Reductions:
 - Atmospheric corrections for EDMs
 - Spatial distance to ellipsoid chord
 - Deflection of the vertical
 - Skew of the normals

- Spherical Trigonometry
 - The Forward Problem, geodetic and ENU
 - The Inverse Problem
- Analytical Cartography
 - Projections and distortions
 - Grid coordinates
 - Planimetric distances and projection scale factor
 - Planimetric angles: grid declination and arc to chord correction
- Mapping in State Plane Coordinates
- Physical Geodesy
 - Mean Sea Level
 - Gravity
 - Orthometric heights, ellipsoid heights, geopotential numbers, dynamic heights, Helmert orthometric heights

Grading

3 midterm exams, 20% each	60%
assignments	15%
Fieldwork	15%
Final examination	10%

Fall Semester 2008

Known non-meet days:

Monday, Sept. 1: Labor Day

Thursday, Sept. 4: Fieldwork

Sun Nov. 23 – Sun Dec. 1: Thanksgiving

Tentative Exam Schedule:

Tuesday, Sept. 30

Thursday, Oct. 30

Thursday, Dec. 4

Special Considerations

Any student who requires special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor to make necessary accommodations. Students should present appropriate verification from the University Program for Students with Learning Disabilities.

Reading Materials

Class notes entitled, “Introduction to Geometrical and Physical Geodesy: The Foundations of Geomatics,” can be obtained from the instructor in digital format (pdf).

Other relevant texts include [17], any plane surveying text, e.g., [35]. For measurement adjustments see [63]

Assorted Papers

[56][57][55][59][62][61][60][58][49][6][11][3][5][4][10][9][8][7][33][12][19][2][31][40][46][38][36][50][37][16][15][53][28][24][41][52][1][51][13][34][27][54][29][25][26][23][45][47][42][14][20][43][21][18][39][44][48][32][22][30]

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UConn Fall Semester 2006

<i>Monday</i>		<i>Tuesday</i>		<i>Wednesday</i>		<i>Thursday</i>		<i>Friday</i>	
28	Classes Begin	29	Leveling	30		31	Leveling	1	
4	Labor Day	5	Total Station	6		7	Total Station	8	
11		12	Hz Datums	13		14	Hz Datums	15	
18		19	Ellipsoids	20		21	Ellipsoids	22	
25		26	Coord System	27		28	Exam 1	29	
2		3	Coord System	4		5	Distances	6	
9		10	Distances	11		12	Angles	13	
16		17	Reductions	18		19	Reductions	20	
23		24	Forward/Inverse	25		26	Projections	27	
30		31	Projections	1		2	Exam 2	3	
6		7	Scale Factor	8		9	Scale Factor	10	
13		14	Grid Angles	15		16	Grid Angles	17	
20	Thanksgiving	21	Thanksgiving	22	Thanksgiving	23	Thanksgiving	24	Thanksgiving
27		28	Vertical Datums	29		30	Vertical Datums	1	
4		5	Vertical Datums	6		7	Vertical Datums	8	Classes End
11	Finals Begin	12		13		14		15	