

Preparing for the Census Workshop

ESRI Virtual Campus Courses

The Hands-on GIS Census Workshop will take place on April 8th from 12 noon to 3pm in the Newman Vertical Campus Building, 6th Floor, Room 160. You must register in advance in order to attend this workshop. To register, or for further information, send a message to Ben Orr at: benjamin.orr@baruchmail.cuny.edu.

In this workshop, you will learn the basics of ArcGIS to create reference and thematic maps of census data. No prior experience with GIS is required. However, you may wish to do some prep work in order to become familiar with the interface. The following instructions will show you how to register for a course called Learning ArcGIS. You can take the first module of that course to prepare for the hands-on workshop. Please note that this is purely optional and is not required for attending the workshop.

As part of CUNY's license agreement with ESRI, the makers of ArcGIS, current students, faculty, and staff of CUNY are eligible to take a number of online, self-paced, free tutorials in ArcGIS as part of ESRI's Virtual Campus program. If you are not a member of CUNY, but are affiliated with another academic institution, you may have access to these courses through the ArcGIS license agreement that your institution has. Check with the relevant department (Geography, Earth or Environmental Sciences) or your IT staff to see if you can access the courses.

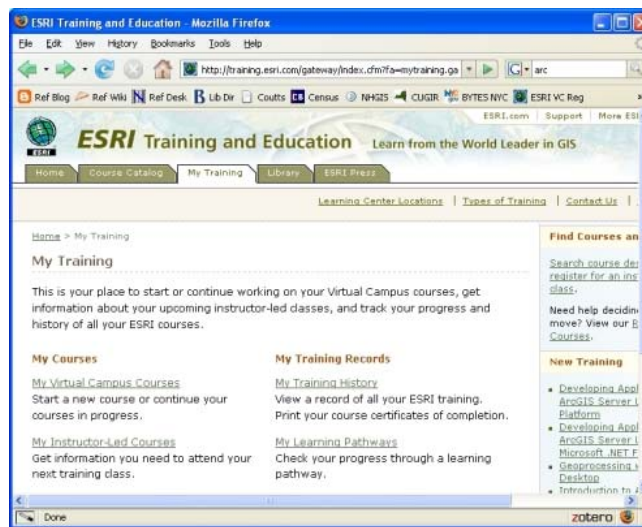
ESRI Software

In order to take the online course, you will need to have access to a copy of the ArcGIS software. Evaluation copies of the software will be distributed to those who have registered for the workshop. You can install and use the evaluation software on your machine if it runs on Windows XP or 2000. The software specifications suggest that your machine should have at least a 1 GHz processor and 512 MB memory in order for the software to run efficiently. If your computer was purchased within the last four years, you probably meet these requirements. The software will NOT run on Windows Vista, Windows 98, Macs, or Linux.

Set up an ESRI Account

Once you have access to the software, you will need to set up an ESRI training account. You will use this account to manage all of your courses, and you will log into it each time you want to work on your classes. From the ESRI training and education webpage: <http://training.esri.com/gateway/index.cfm?fa=mytraining.gateway>

Click on My Virtual Campus Courses, and on the next screen select the option to create a new account. Follow all the steps to create your account.



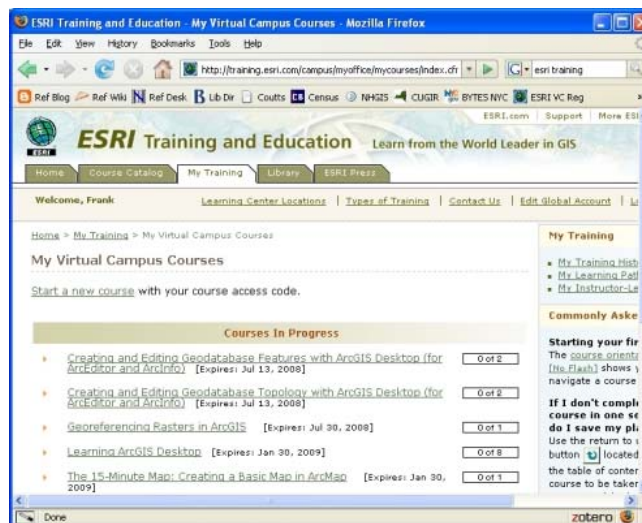
ESRI's My Training Website

Request Course Codes

Once you have created an ESRI account, you will need to register for the Learning ArcGIS course. If you are affiliated with CUNY, send an email to Frank Donnelly, the Geospatial Librarian at Baruch College, at: francis_donnelly@baruch.cuny.edu

In the email, state that you are attending the Hands-On GIS Census Workshop and that you would like to register for Learning ArcGIS. You MUST use your CUNY email address to make the request. Frank will process your request within 24 hours. You will receive the registration code for the Learning GIS course via email.

Once you receive it, log back in to your ESRI Virtual Campus page, and use the code to register for the course. Click the link that says Start A New Course, then enter the code. Once you are registered for the course, click on it to launch it.

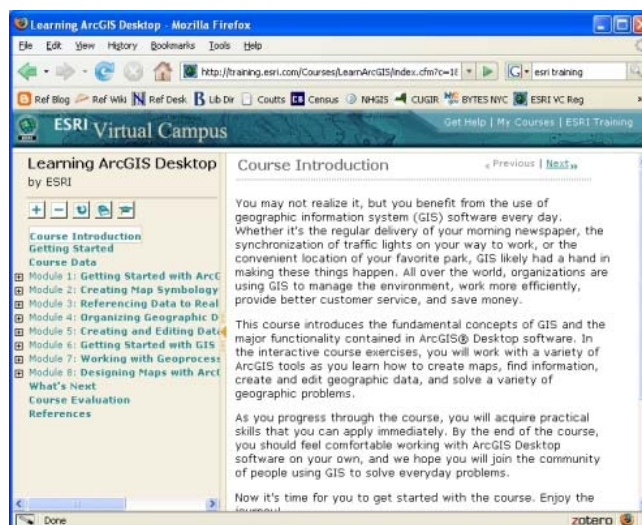


Your Course Page. Start a New Course Link is Near the Top

Taking the Learning ArcGIS Course - Module 1

The Learning ArcGIS course contains eight separate modules. To prepare for the hands-on workshop, just take the first module, Getting Started With ArcGIS Desktop. Each module consists of some written material that you read on the screen and some exercises that you will follow using the actual software. Before you start

the course, you will be prompted to download the data to use with that course. Each module concludes with a review and a multiple choice exam.



Learning ArcGIS

You are welcome to take the other modules for the rest of the course any time you like. If you complete the entire course, you receive a certificate of completion (in pdf format) at the end. The course is good for one year. The evaluation software is only good for 30 to 90 days (depending on which version you are using). Check the back of the software sleeve for more details.