

Hello and welcome to the Public Domain Data Online course.

Over the next 6 weeks we will cover a variety of topics including what are spatial data, what is the public domain, where can I find public domain data and what are some of the issues associated with using this type of data.

Each week you will work through a series of readings, videos and pod casts and complete an activity designed to give you practical experience in finding, downloading and working with public domain data sources.

At the end of each week there is a short multiple choice quiz to complete. You will have three attempts to complete each quiz, after which you must move on to the next week's topic. Your score from each quiz will be collated to give you an overall mark. The course workload is between 4 to 6 hours per week. It will take you approximately two hours to complete the readings, watch the videos and listen to any pod casts that have been posted for the week and the remainder of the time will be spent on the activity and the weekly quiz.

At the end of the course, you will be asked to complete a short post describing your experiences during the course and what you've learned from the core readings, your own research and the activities you've completed. This post can be made public for your fellow course participants to see and comment on, or kept private between you and the tutors on the course; the choice is yours.

So, as we have a lot to cover, we'll get started with the first topic - spatial data.