Geodesign Education: Reflections on a Collaborative Geodesign Summer Course

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Geodesign Summit
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USC Problems Without Passports (PWP) Program

• Program requirements:
  o Investigate a problem of transnational importance
  o Problems-based learning
  o Conduct studies abroad

Den Haag, NL
Collaborative Partnership

Ruddell Scholten van Manen Lee Dias
Steinitz Hoque Jannsen
SSCI-350: International Geodesign
2015 Global Cohort
Course Objectives

- Develop:
  - Familiarity with Geodesign challenges and solutions
  - An understanding of systems thinking
  - Critical and spatial thinking skills
  - Experience with field-based research
  - Skills with geospatial technologies
Course Overview

• Course Schedule
  o June 1- July 2, 2015

• Location
  o USC campus and the Netherlands

• Credit
  o 4-unit course; apply to GeoDesign major or Spatial Studies minor

• Field Experience
  o June 13-27
Field Experience: Places

Almere

Rotterdam
Field Experience: Professionals

Geodan

Delft
Geodesign Case Study

Framing the Study

1. How should the study area be described?
2. How does the study area operate?
3. Is the current study area working well?
4. How might the study area be altered?
5. What differences might the changes cause?
6. How should the study area be changed?

Amstelland Region
Geodesign Case Study

- Design Scenario
  - Mixed-use green zone
  - Add 100,000 new residents
  - Emergency evaluation

Ronde Hoep Polder
Geodesign Case Study

“Perfection is not the aim, a breadth of ideas is the aim.”
Prof. Steinitz
Capstone Assignment
Leveraging Social Media

• Social Media Platform
  o Twitter (@SSI_Prof)
  o LinkedIn

• Advantages
  o Real-time, georeferenced
  o Interactive
  o Connect (people, places)

• Best Practices
  o #USCGeoDesign
Course Evaluations

• “Amazing course – truly inspiring in many ways. I have learned so much, and this course has propelled me towards great things within the field and beyond.”

• “Creative and engaging assignments that pushed self-directed research.”

• “Our schedules were filled with interactive activities, networking events, incredible bike/walking tours, self-evaluations, and an amazing case study.”
Continued Collaboration

• Summer 2016
  o May 31 – July 1
• Expand Participants
  o USC students
  o Dutch students
  o Saudi students
  o Chinese students
• Geodesign Questionnaire
  o Student comprehension of course concepts
Questions?

Bachelor of Science in GeoDesign

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