

# Using Maps and Technology to Promote Literacy Skills in Higher Education

Eva Stern, MPA, GISP  
District of Columbia GIS  
and  
Northern Virginia Community College,  
Geospatial Studies Program

# Knowing Means Growing

- What do students need to know
- What do adult learners need to know in order to survive and thrive in employment and further education?

# Adult Students

- 47% of students enrolled in colleges in the US are older than 25
- Adult students have different expectations
  - Environment
  - Want to discuss experiences not absorb information
- Adult students want to know how to apply knowledge to other situations

# Adult Students

- Adult students prefer hybrid classes
- Adult students tend to have an experiential focus
- Educational content needs to be tied closely to the needs of the labor market.

My students can barely write.

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Are my students learning anything?

# Training, Teaching, Knowledge Transfer

- Training – an activity leading to skilled behavior
- Teaching – imparting knowledge
- Knowledge Transfer - Take knowledge and run with it!

# Learning for Transfer

Use prior learning to support new learning or problem-solving in “culturally” relevant contexts



My students can barely write.

Are my students learning anything?

How do we teach them to communicate?

# District GIS Training Program

- Three regularly-held training classes, ½-2 days per month
- Advanced Training program
- Limited experiential training opportunities

# NOVA Geospatial Studies Program

- 28-credit Career Studies certificate program
- 61-credit AAS program (requires college composition)
- Primarily theory and technology-based

**MISSING:**

Science-based  
writing practice



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

- Preparing students for learning and for the workplace
- demands for more college-educated workers and more engaged and informed citizens.
- higher levels of learning and knowledge as well as strong intellectual and practical
- Integrating core concepts with key skills

# Create the Right Environment

- Use existing technical and practical knowledge
- Expose students to technology that supports what they already know
- Ask the students to write about what they know.

# Essential Learning Outcomes

- Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World
- Intellectual and Practical Skills
- Personal and Social Responsibility
- Integrative and Applied Learning

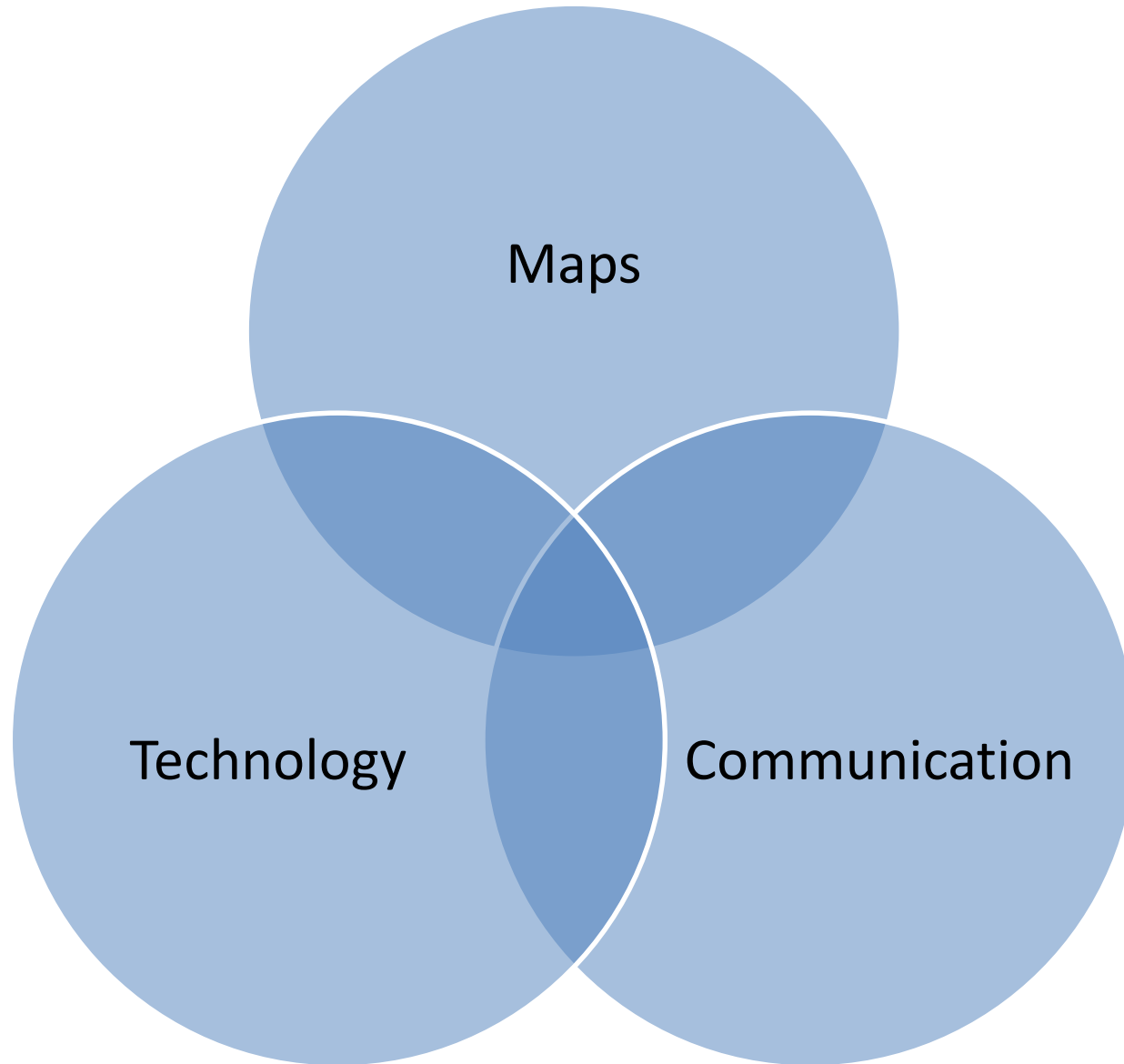
# Adult Students

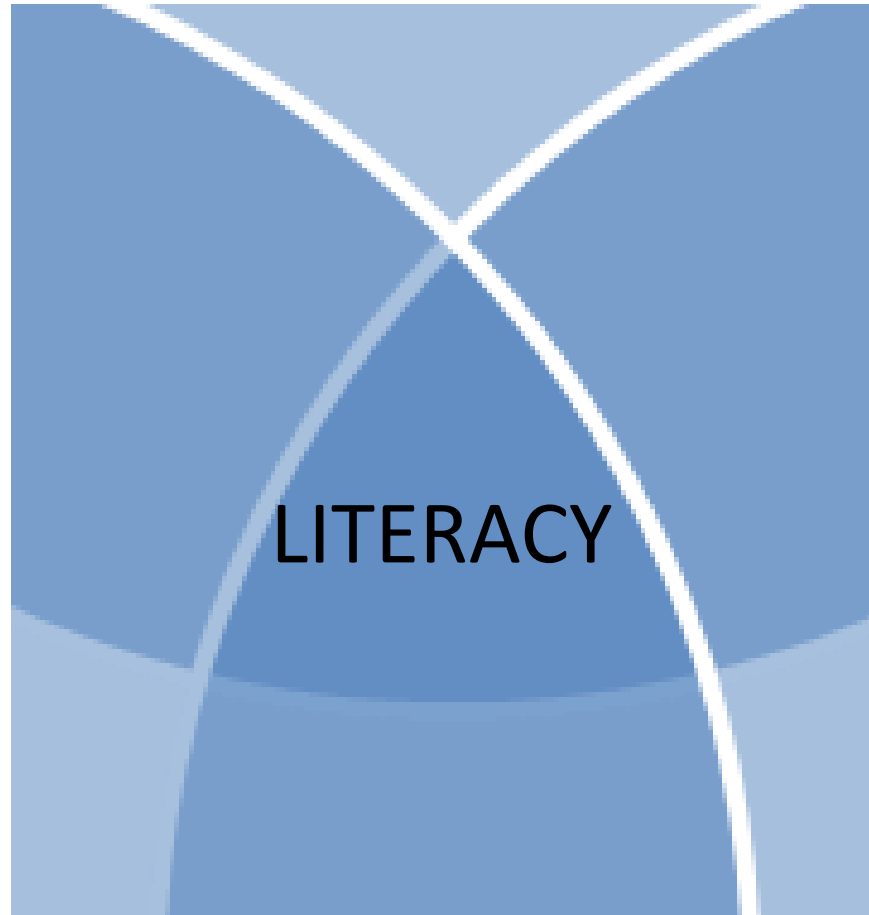
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# GIS 295: Topics in...

- Building on existing training and education
- Some technical instruction
- Discussion/instruction on how to use blogging software
- Post prompts; readings; discussion prompts





- <https://ashakatti.wordpress.com/2015/12/02/where-does-the-sidewalk-end/>
- <http://saralubkin.com/2015/12/06/harmful-algal-blooms-part-5-trouble-in-data-land/>
- <http://saralubkin.com/2015/11/25/tracking-turkeys/>
- <https://pbdevine.wordpress.com/2015/11/24/why-location-location-location-actually-matters/?preview=true&iframe=true>

# Thank you!

Eva Stern

District of Columbia GIS

[eva.stern@dc.gov](mailto:eva.stern@dc.gov)