

**Political Science 397: Crisis Mapping, Politics and New Media**  
**Lab Work Assignment #1: Open Street Maps! (5 points)**

**Due: Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> in Class**

**Goal: Define, edit and update an area of your choice on *Open Street Maps***

Step 1: Create an account and login to [www.openstreetmap.org/](http://www.openstreetmap.org/).

Step 2: Decide and “predefine” an area you will edit. Write down the boundaries of the area you have selected. (See below)

Step 3: Print several maps of this area, as they currently exist before your edits.

Step 2: Press “Edit” and “Editing offline”

2 Final Steps: Save all changes & print evidence of all edits

Assignment: Turn in both a “before” and “after” screenshot of the map of the area you selected (First press “Advanced –Maximize Window”. Then use the “PrintScreen” button on your keyboard and open up a blank word document and press “paste”). Be sure each map is clearly marked & changes highlighted or circled. You may have several screenshots printed (at different levels of magnification/zoom). In the end, you will demonstrate the work you did by capturing a before and after screen shot of your updates. *Please note: since edits made into OpenStreetMaps sometimes take time to appear on the public site, please be sure to print your work for your grade on this assignment. If you work on this over the course of several days, please be safe and print the work you did at the end of each day.*

1. In order to complete this assignment and familiarize yourself with the many different aspects of Open Street Maps, please be sure you complete at minimum the following tasks:
  - a. Correct or draw **at least 5** “Ways” (Roads) appropriately. Classify each road correctly (residential, highway, etc.)
  - b. Precisely map **at least 5 parking lots** that had not been previously identified.
  - c. Trace the outlines of **at least 5** buildings and correctly identify them (residential, commercial, public, etc).
  - d. Appropriately identify **at least 5** local businesses (or services) that have not been previously mapped. Locate the precise location of each business, include the company name, and use the appropriate tags to describe the place.
  - e. Print out enough legible maps to show your work.
2. Next, complete a 1-page paper detailing what you learned. Start by describing the area you selected. For example, what are the N-S-E-W boundaries? How large an area is this? What knowledge or tie do you have to this particular place? Why did you select this area? What are some of the potential uses of participatory mapmaking for community development? What are some of the potential problems with OSM and how might they be overcome?