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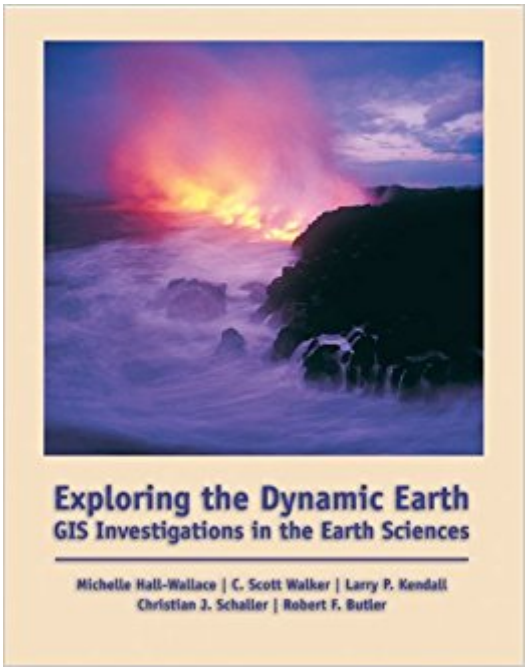
Exploring The Dynamic Earth: GIS Investigations For The Earth Sciences (with CD-ROM)



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Synopsis

The popularity of geographic information system (GIS) software as a tool in the social and physical sciences is growing rapidly. These three modular investigation guides let even novice users tap the power of ArcView GIS to explore, manipulate, and analyze large data sets. Carefully designed and class tested, the guides emphasize the visualization, analysis, and multimedia integration capabilities inherent to GIS, while minimizing the need to master a complex software package. Exploring Water Resources make the nuts and bolts of using ArcView GIS transparent to your students. By focusing on teaching with GIS rather than teaching about it, you can incorporate GIS easily into homework, discussions, or lab sessions. This flexible teaching resource motivates and enables your students to "learn by doing" as they use a full complement of GIS capabilities. EXPLORING THE DYNAMIC EARTH: GIS INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE EARTH SCIENCES complements any introductory course in meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, natural hazards, Earth sciences, atmospheric science, and Earth systems science. The guide leads students through a set of exercises in which they are asked to explore, analyze, and then elaborate on the information extracted from a robust GIS dataset using ArcView, the dominant GIS software tool in the school and college market. The GIS information has been preprocessed into maps and legends, and some ArcView procedures have been automated so students can focus on the science content. Extensive classroom testing at both the college and high school levels shows that students have little difficulty using the ArcView data sets to perform the exercises.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The strongest feature of these guides are the databases creates for analysis. There are some excellent data here, and it is well organized into ArcView files.""The data sets are very rich and well done. The strong connection between science and humanity is important for university students to appreciate--and is clear in these materials."

Michelle Hall and The SAGUARO Project team have developed a series of four GIS INVESTIGATIONS over the course of the last few years. These materials have been extensively class-tested at both the college and high-school level using funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF).Larry Kendall is an independent consultant.C. Scott Walker is with Harvard University.

I used this book in a GIS class. This is a great cursory look at plate boundaries, volcanoes, and earthquakes and it is pretty straight forward. It is a poor GIS book.Working through the exercises with ArcGIS, one is instructed to turn layers on and off; zoom to a feature and turn layers on or off again; pull information out of the statistics tool; turn more layers on or off.The GIS aspect of this book is ridiculously elementary and this book shouldn’t really be used in any GIS class. It would work well in an introductory earth science class.A major disadvantage is that the book relies entirely on data supplied by the publisher. This data is NOT supplied to the reader by the publisher, it is supplied to the instructor by the publisher. This makes working ahead impossible if the data has not been passed out. On the chance someone purchased it for personal curiosity, the book would be useless.If you need it for a class, go ahead and get it.If you are a GIS student or professional looking to increase your skill set, don’t waste your money.

The book was creased and folded. No other problems, overall I was satisfied with it! It could have been better.

You get a quick introduction to using GIS with geographic data. Perhaps the best thing about the book is the exposure you get to ArcView, which is one of the major GIS products out there in the marketplace. The book assumes no prior exposure to GIS. But if you are majoring in any of the earth sciences (geography foremost amongst these), then using GIS has now become a de facto

mandatory requirement of your discipline. The book takes much of the mystique and difficulty out of using GIS.The book's brevity means that it does not go into any topic in detail. Perhaps the authors are planning sequels along these lines?

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