

*FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
Department of Geomatics  
'MAP YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD' COMPETITION  
Competition Day 4 August 2017*

We invite you to enrol teams to participate in a 'Map your Neighbourhood'

- Teams must register in advance to reserve a place and finalise arrangements, (*see cover letter for instructions*).
- A maximum of **20 teams** can be accommodated.
- Bookings will be treated on a first-come first-served basis. No preference bookings will be accommodated.

## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME**

8:00 - 8:30	Registration of teams and submission of maps and reports
8:30 - 11:30	Teams present on how they conducted the mapping project. Evaluation of maps by judges
11:30 - 12:30	Prize-giving

Today's world has evolved to become what is referred to as an 'information society'. In this society, information is a basic need to our survival. We then find ourselves with a desire to communicate so that we know what is happening around us and globally. Think of WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Each morning we cannot do anything before checking messages on, for example, WhatsApp or spend a day without visiting any of our favourite social networks.

As we communicate with friends over social networks, we often need to meet for a movie or tea in a restaurant. Sometimes we book a trip as a group in other country unfamiliar to us as tourists. In some cases, we just need to move from point A to B after being given an address. How then do we achieve moving (navigating) from one place to another when we are not familiar with that place? What document can you give to a tourist so that he or she can easily move around a place to see different cultural sites? The only document that can help us is a *map*. A map shows us the different natural and manmade features in a place and we can use it to navigate from one place to another. Maps are one of the major products that we produce in the Geomatics department. Our maps are used by government, private sector, non-governmental sector and schools. The information contained on maps is referred to as geographical information. This information is important because it gives you 'a sense of location' anywhere on the earth's surface. Geographical information has become so vital such that many organisations and people use it on a daily basis for different applications.



Example Tourist Map

If you relate to the modern world we live in, you can think of google maps as one of the tools available for navigation on smartphones. You can also share your current location through WhatsApp to a friend so that he or she can navigate and meet you at the exact place. This is possible because of *coordinates*. In Geomatics, coordinates play a major role as they help us create maps which are used on applications such as Google and Bing maps.

The Department of Geomatics at Tshwane University of Technology is staging a '*map your neighbourhood*' competition. Through the active participation of scholars, we wish to show them different ways of viewing the world through mapping.

For the Tshwane University of Technology and specifically, the Department of Geomatics, it is of inestimable value to show young scholars, who still have to choose a career and decide on their preferred field and place of study, based on what our students are capable of doing. The Geomatics profession needs Engineering Surveyors, Geographic Information Systems Specialists, Photogrammetrists, Software and Application Developers, Cartographers and Physical Planners, though fewer people are entering this field.

The Tshwane University of Technology specialises in career training and every student who participates is equipped and ready to enter the job market and produce quality Geomatics work at a professional level.



## 1. COMPETITION FOR SCHOLARS

- 1.1 Draw a map (freehand and not to scale) of the neighbourhood where your school is situated. The map should have your school as the central point. The map should therefore show your school and the area surrounding the school. The map should present detailed information of your school and the neighbourhood it is in. You can use rulers for some features, if necessary, to make them neater. Take note of the size of different features relative to each other, for example, one tennis court cannot be the same size as a football pitch but needs to be smaller.

Draw a rectangular boundary 2cm from the top, bottom and sides of the A0 paper. This will define your drawing area.

Do your first sketch on the A0 paper and identify how you can improve the positioning of features. Use this map to move around labelling different important features such as classroom blocks, swimming pools, fish ponds residential areas, shopping centres, rivers, mountains, churches, recreation centres and roads. Think of the different symbols that you can use to represent different features on the group. Think of the different colours you can use, for example, blue for water.

Once you have all the information, redraw on another A0 paper. After drawing on pencil, shade the different features using crayons. Draw a key or legend at an appropriate place. Put a title of your map at an appropriate place, for example, Map of Pretoria West. Draw a north pointer (arrow) and explain how you determined the north direction in your report. Write information of group members such as names, surnames and your school name on the map.

It will be worthwhile to research on 'how to make good maps' on [www.google.com](http://www.google.com).

The materials you need at this point are:

- A0 plain white paper (2)
- Pencils
- Rulers
- Stencil
- Crayons

- 1.2 Visit a printing shop that prints up to A0 size and make a copy of your map, preferably on glossy paper.

### NB

- 1.3 **Give a detailed description in a form of a report of:**

1. The map-making process from the first field trip to gather information up to creating the final map product (You will give a five-minute presentation in front of the judges).

**This report and presentation will be assessed as part of the competition.**

## 2. SUBMISSIONS

- ✓ AO sketch map of your neighbourhood (hand-drawn)
- ✓ Copy of AO map on glossy paper
- ✓ Project report (Not more than two handwritten pages)



### 3. PRIZES

The competition will be judged by taking the following guidelines into consideration:

3.1 A first, second and third place to the teams having the best maps and detailed reports.

***The number of prizes handed out will depend on availability.***

Reference to mapping

<https://www.citysightseeing.co.za/content/page/maps>

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