

Assignment 3. Behavioral Mapping of Public Spaces

This is a field mapping project in which you will select an area in downtown Portland to observe, record, and map the uses of the public space. It is also expected that you conduct some initial research into the space that you will be mapping to understand its history and its intended uses.

The class will be divided into *small groups* (about 2-3 people per group). Do some or all of your fieldwork as a group; you will see more that way. The work that you turn in will be **individual work**.

Instructions.*Step 1. Select a park or public space*

Below is a list of parks you can chose to observe in downtown:

- Chapman/Lownsdale Squares (SW 4th Ave & Main St)
- Director Park (815 SW Park Ave)
- Jamison Square (810 NW 11th Ave)
- O'Bryant Square (SW Park & Washington St)
- Pioneer Square (SW Broadway & Yamhill St)
- Tanner Springs park (NW 10th & Marshall St)
- South Park Blocks (SW Park Ave from Salmon St to Jackson St)
- North Park Blocks (NW Park Ave from Ankeny St to Glisan St)
- Waterfront Park (Naito Pkwy from SW Harrison to NW Glisan)

Other public spaces can also be chosen. For example, bus mall section or SW Ankeny between 2nd & 3rd Avenues (picnic benches & outdoor seating). **Discuss your location with your instructor prior to Field day.**

Step 2. Create a site plan or map

You can do this in a few different ways:

1. Zoom into the park on Google Maps (or other mapping platform) and add the park features to the map once on-site,
2. When you get to the park sketch out a site plan on blank paper (or do beforehand using Google Earth, or
3. Create a map using GIS or drawing software

Step 3. Data collection plan

Determine what data will be collected at the site – create a list of the behaviors you will track.

Step 4. Determine method(s) for data recording

What data will you be collecting and how will you do this? Are you going to track things such as age & gender? Since you will be collecting data over time, do you need a separate map for

recording data at each time interval? It is recommended that you use 10-15 time intervals for data collection.

Step 5. Collect data

Go to the park/public space and start recording data on the map. Additionally, take notes about behaviors in-between time intervals.

Step 6. Aggregate & display your results

After your data collection, we will spend time in class to create a map of your aggregated data.

In the Field.

Be aware of other variable or factors that may influence behavior and park use. Some examples may include weather, use of space surrounding the park, or special events. Take notes on any of these factors in your field notebooks.

Deliverables.

For your final product (due Monday Oct 30), you should have:

1. An introductory section of 100-250 words that discusses the history, planning, and uses of your public space/park.
2. A discussion of what you found through your observations & behavior mapping (100-250 words).
3. Field notes – including all maps
4. Final digital map of your findings