



Maps as art.

In this course so far, we've looked at the elements of maps (projection, scale), the locations of places (the globe project), the purpose + possibilities of digital maps (participatory mapping), and now we're going to take a look at maps as art. This is the last project before the final project you will design + execute yourself.

Maps are beautiful and imaginary, so this is your opportunity to create your own. There are four possibilities:

- **Create a postcard, or set of postcards, to an imaginary place.** Use magazines, text and any other materials to collage/design a 4x6 postcard. On the other side of the postcard, write a postcard to someone of your choice beginning with the line "I am writing from a place you have never been."
- **Map a fictional world.** This world may come from a video game, or a short story, or a dream you had last night, or somewhere entirely different. Create a physical representation of this world – 2D or 3D – as a way of making an "unreal" place "real."
- **Make a map of your heart.** Search for a medical chart of the human heart (ask Google), and redraw it to represent your own heart. What do you bleed? *Where* is your heart? Using sections of your heart, depict the things you love. Which sections are larger than others?
- **"Psychogeography"** describes the specific effects of the geographical environment on the emotions and behavior of individuals. It's like art/philosophy/geography manifest in mapping. Find examples of psychogeography to learn more (<http://bit.ly/psychomaps>), and create your own psychogeographic mapping of the iSchool.