



Webinar Review

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In term two the following webinars were delivered and proved to be popular with Geography teachers.

From the Academy

Professor Sue Jackson and Dr Lana Hartwig, from the Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University, QLD shared their research findings about Indigenous water management in south-eastern Australia. Sue Jackson highlighted the varying access to water that Indigenous peoples have across Australia and the importance of access to water to improve the lives of Indigenous Peoples. Dr Lana Hartwig, discussed water justice for Indigenous Peoples in the Murray Darling Basin. Three academic readings were shared with participants as pre-reading. The readings provided additional depth to the issues presented. Participants can look back and utilise these readings to conduct thorough research into the topic of Indigenous Water Management which is backed up by evidence provided in the readings. Surprisingly the day after the webinar, the paper *Rivers as living beings: rights in law but no rights to water?* by O'Donnell (2021) was released. The paper highlighted the issues surrounding giving rivers rights in legislation as a legal person while at the same time restricting water flows. O'Donnell's (2021), research outlines:

“a comparative analysis of the legal and/or living personhood of rivers and lakes in Aotearoa New Zealand, India, Bangladesh, Colombia to identify the legal status of specific rivers, and highlight the disturbing trend of recognising rivers as legal persons and/or living entities whilst also denying rivers the right to flow”

This paper reinforced the findings presented by Professor Sue Jackson and Dr Lana Hartwig during the webinar. It would be suitable for Stage 5 Environmental Change and Management as teachers can use this research to assist them in critically evaluating the management strategy of granting rivers legal personhood. For example, the Whanganui River in New Zealand has been granted legal status as a person but does not have water rights under the legislation.

Whanganui River, New Zealand



Image source: <https://www.wcel.org/blog/i-am-river-and-river-me-legal-personhood-and-emerging-rights-nature>

Reference

Erin O'Donnell (2021) Rivers as living beings: rights in law, but no rights to water?, Griffith Law Review, DOI: 10.1080/10383441.2020.1881304



From the Classroom

Chris Betcher, Program Manager, Google for Education, presented the 'From the Classroom' series, and he provided a comprehensive overview of Google's Geo tools.

Chris presented a range of Google's Geotools which can be utilised across K-12 Geography. Chris covered Google Maps, Google My Maps, Google Earth, Streetview, Earth 3D imagery, Google Earth Studio Earth Engine Timelapse and Arts and Culture. Participants were provided a link to the presentation so they could follow on during the demonstrations. This was a practical workshop which was suitable for all levels of expertise in Spatial Technologies. Chris gave the participants many tips and tricks. For example, in Google Maps, choose "Globe" to view Earth in 3D Globe mode. Here you can see Greenland is much smaller than Africa. The standard Mercator Map projection shows Greenland to be almost the same size as Africa.

Google Maps

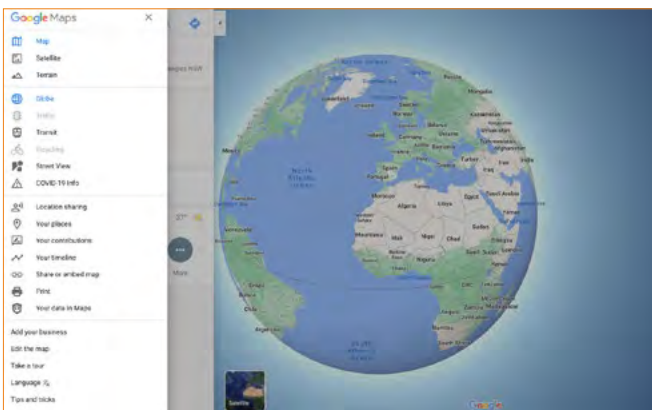


Image Source: <https://www.google.com.au/maps/@27.7144972,-19.1186644,2.82z?hl=en>



Mercator Projection



Image Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercator_projection



Google Earth Outreach



Google Earth Education

Image Source: Google Geo Tools Presentation



Google Maps



Google MyMaps



Google Earth



Streetview



Earth 3D Imagery



Google Earth Studio



Earth Engine Timelapse



Arts and Culture

Image Source: Google Geo Tools Presentation

Geography NESA Accredited PD

GTA's online courses are NESA Accredited PD in the priority area of Delivery and Assessment of NSW Curriculum.

This is what one Geography teacher had to say after completing the new Landscapes and Landforms course:

"This was awesome. Fantastic ideas and resources. I recommend it to all."

If between now and 16th July 2021 you register for and complete TWO courses, then email gta.elearning@gmail.com and ask for TWO courses for free – and that's what you'll get – Buy TWO Get TWO FREE.

NOTE: All courses must be completed by 31st July 2021 to be eligible to count towards NESA Accredited PD.

Here are the courses available via <https://www.gtansw.org.au/professional-learning/>:

- Geo 141: Teaching Place & Liveability** (3hrs)
- Geo 241: Teaching Place and Liveability** (experienced) (3hrs)
- Geo 142: Teaching Landscapes & Landforms** (3hrs)
- Geo 101: Concepts Part 1** (5hrs)
- Geo 102: Concepts Part 2** (5hrs)
- Geo 110: Intro to Maps** (3hrs)
- Geo 111: Intro to Topo Skills** (3hrs)

If a teacher new to Geography wanted to strengthen their capabilities, then a superb program would be to build their content knowledge with Geo 141 or 142, followed by deepening their concept understanding with Geo101, and rounding it out with the skills of Geo 110.

All of the courses are great value at \$90, and very flexible. You can pay for your courses using credit card and start immediately. Alternatively, if you are keen for your school to pay for you, see the instructions on this page: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1W52M2Z_ZreiDt39Ypaaj3Ph33Zacm1AvgGtKBhUzSiU/edit?usp=sharing.

Registrations for multiple people and multiple courses are also possible using these instructions.

We look forward to seeing you online!

Dr Paul Batten and
Katerina Stojanovski

