Introduction to Google Earth®

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By 4:00, Let's Leave With:
- A clear understanding of what Google Earth can and cannot do;
- A demonstration of basic features;
- The confidence to go home and try it and
- The desire to make Google Earth a new tool you use regularly.

2:45   Welcome

2:50   What GE Is
- Free (or $399/year for Google Earth Pro)
- A downloaded program that connects you to an online database
- Amazing and powerful
- Complicated enough to require learning and practice and regular use
- Sizzle and steak
    - An impressive show & tell tool, especially for non-technical audiences
    - A serious analytical tool for individual and group work
- Time-consuming, but worth it, and less so as you get better at it

What GE Ain't
- GIS (although GE Pro can incorporate GIS shapefiles)
- A tool to produce low-resolution printed maps (higher res with GE Pro)
- Stress-free to learn: it's not a completely intuitive process, unless you are a whiz with comparable mapping programs
- Suitable for dial-up, or otherwise slow, internet connections

3:00   How I use Google Earth
- To find a location and take a look at the most recent aerial photography, or historic aerial imagery
    - Turn on and off **Places** and **Layers**
- To place information on an aerial image, including:
    - Create **My Places**
    - Create annotated points and icons
    - Create annotated lines and loops of various colors and widths
    - Make links to web pages
    - Upload concept sketches, site plans or maps.....absolutely!
    - Upload photographs.....sort of.....use Panoramio instead

- To share those annotations with others by email so they can add and revise content individually
- To annotate, analyze and make decisions with a group in a face-to-face meeting using projected images and an internet connection
- To take an audience (live or online) on a tour of a site or corridor, anywhere from ground level to a virtual helicopter ride, showing selected annotations
- To play around flying a virtual airplane

3:30   The Importance of Saving Your Work
- Where is your data saved?
- Is it secure?
- Your mantra:
  - First **Save to My Places** (to move it out of **Temporary Places**)
  - Often **Save to My Places**
  - Often **Save Place as….** a .kmz file with the date to your hard drive
- Delete **Temporary Places** with care:
  - *Have you saved it to **My Places** and to your hard drive?*

3:35   How Would You Like to Use Google Earth?

3:45   Miscellaneous Tips
- Save early and often!
- Create and maintain an impeccable filing system using clear names and dates.
- Open a dialog box (one at a time) to work on an annotation.
- If you develop a lot of layers and locations, don't open them all at once; it slows down the processing and may lead to more crashes.
- Use Google Earth tutorials.
- Don't trust the map information: some street names are wrong and some paper (or long-ago closed) streets show up as public roads.

3:55   Plus/Delta Review
- Plus: *What worked well about today's session?*
- Delta: *Next time John runs this session it will be better if……what?*
- Fill out evaluations

4:00   Let's Go Home!

For follow-up assistance or to discuss a potential project, please contact me.
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