ABSTRACT TEXT: Teaching GIS for adult learners can be tricky especially if the instructor has less year-of-experience working in the GIS industry compared to the learners who have been in the industry for a while. With my 4-year experience in teaching GIS for adult learners, coupled with my CTT+ (Certified Technical Trainer) certification for CompTIA CTT+ and I was Esri Certified Instructor when I was working at Esri Indonesia, I would share my approaches and techniques in teaching GIS for adult learners. I was a college graduate when I started my GIS career. As a GIS instructor, on the first day of my training session, I had my trainees underestimated my training and teaching skills. Surprisingly, at the end of the week, my trainees asked me to deliver another ArcGIS training again for their companies.

Technical knowledge and skillset in GIS are paramount, but a GIS instructor should also have the teaching ability to approach adult learners. I will include approaches and techniques on:

1) GIS classroom management
2) handling and answering ‘difficult’ and ‘tricky’ questions
3) engaging participants in the discussion
4) handling technological issues during the session especially if the instructor teaches on-site
5) handling participants who are not interested in attending the class but assigned by the company
6) handing the session when the manager and employees are in the same class
7) handling the participant who has a slower pace in doing the technical GIS works than other participants. I will close my session by providing information, tips, and tricks in preparing CTT+ certification.

The GEO Project: Geospatial Education and Outreach in Mississippi
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ABSTRACT TEXT: The Geospatial Education and Outreach Project (GEO Project) is a collaborative effort among the Northern Gulf Institute (a NOAA Cooperative Institute) and the Mississippi State University Extension Service. The purpose of the project is to serve as the primary source for geospatial education and technical support for the citizens of Mississippi. The project provides free training and technical assistance in the use, application and implementation of geographic information systems (GIS) to Mississippi state and local government employees, as well as federal government employees. Two-day, hands-on workshops using commercial and open source GIS software are offered at various locations around the state. Workshop topics range from introduction to GIS to geospatial database systems. Since its inception, the project has delivered over 365 2-day GIS workshops in Mississippi, with approximately 3600 participants. The GEO Project receives support from the Regional Geospatial Modeling Grant (RGMG). The RGMG was developed to promote geospatial technology in Mississippi through: workforce training in geographic information systems (GIS), development of web-based geospatial tools for public access, and creation of new geospatial data for public use. Web-based geospatial tools developed by the GEO Project include GeoCoast and GeoDawg. GeoCoast is a publicly accessible website allowing users to select a potential elevation above current sea level and evaluate and visualize the effect. Current capabilities include traffic routing over the local road network allowing users of GeoCoast to identify an origin and destination to view the model’s rerouting of traffic around the inundated landscape. GeoDawg is a "HTML" web application with compatibility with all computer operating systems. Tools to display different data layers, upload your own data layers, create point, line, polygon and text overlays, as well as linear and areal measurements on an assortment of basemaps, are provided free to the public.

Learning Objective1: Learn about the history of the GEO Project, as well as the current GEO Project geospatial education and outreach activities occurring in Mississippi

Learning Objective2: Learn about publicly accessible web-based geospatial tools developed by the GEO Project

Case Studies: Development of geospatial tools, workflows, and training materials for the Mississippi Department of Health's Food Safety Rapid Response Team

Skills: People will learn about the GEO Project geospatial education and outreach activities taking place in the state of Mississippi, as well as opportunities to participate in education and outreach activities. Additionally, people will learn about publicly available web-based resources created by the GEO