A Geographic Information System (GIS) creates and analyzes digital maps and other geographic data, and the Web provides a natural medium for teaching GIS. My GIS classes use the Web as a medium for participation in problem-based learning (PBL) labs.

I deliver all course materials via the Web, and for the past four years I have also required students to submit all of their class projects via the Web. I encourage students to write raw HTML to de-mystify it, and to learn digital image basics by experimenting with Xview (UNIX graphics editor). Web-authoring skills empower students. Each class session begins with a brief lecture followed by a PBL lab session. Students demo their work on the Web, critique each others’ work and develop on-line portfolios. My GIS classes now require more instructor and teaching assistant time than previously (and more student time!), but they earn very high student evaluations.