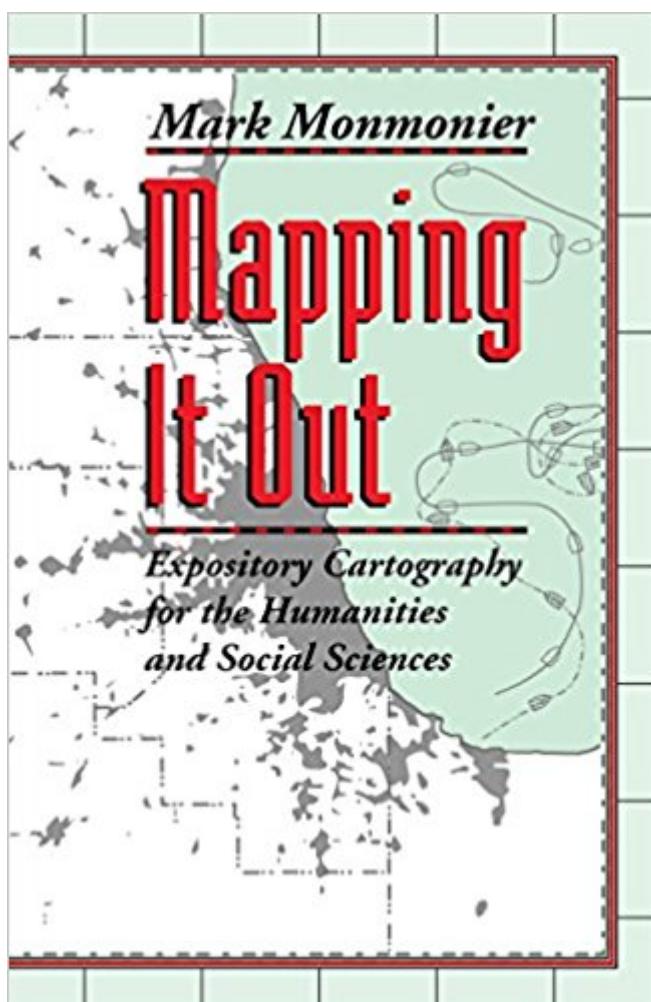


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# Mapping It Out: Expository Cartography For The Humanities And Social Sciences (Chicago Guides To Writing, Editing, And Publishing)



## Synopsis

Writers know only too well how long it can take—and how awkward it can be—to describe spatial relationships with words alone. And while a map might not always be worth a thousand words, a good one can help writers communicate an argument or explanation clearly, succinctly, and effectively. In his acclaimed *How to Lie with Maps*, Mark Monmonier showed how maps can distort facts. In *Mapping it Out: Expository Cartography for the Humanities and Social Sciences*, he shows authors and scholars how they can use expository cartography—the visual, two-dimensional organization of information—to heighten the impact of their books and articles. This concise, practical book is an introduction to the fundamental principles of graphic logic and design, from the basics of scale to the complex mapping of movement or change. Monmonier helps writers and researchers decide when maps are most useful and what formats work best in a wide range of subject areas, from literary criticism to sociology. He demonstrates, for example, various techniques for representing changes and patterns; different typefaces and how they can either clarify or confuse information; and the effectiveness of less traditional map forms, such as visibility base maps, frame-rectangle symbols, and complementary scatterplot designs for conveying complex spatial relationships. There is also a wealth of practical information on map compilation, cartobibliographies, copyright and permissions, facsimile reproduction, and the evaluation of source materials. Appendixes discuss the benefits and limitations of electronic graphics and pen-and-ink drafting, and how to work with a cartographic illustrator. Clearly written, and filled with real-world examples, *Mapping it Out* demystifies mapmaking for anyone writing in the humanities and social sciences. "A useful guide to a subject most people probably take too much for granted. It shows how map makers translate abstract data into eye-catching cartograms, as they are called. It combats cartographic illiteracy. It fights cartophobia. It may even teach you to find your way."—Christopher Lehmann-Haupt, *The New York Times*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The goal of this book is to encourage scholars to use maps where maps are needed. Although written language allows authors to announce goals, discuss sources, explain research strategies, narrate events, and summarize arguments, prose has sequential, linear structure that can be painfully insufficient for discussing places, regions, and spatial relationships. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Mark Monmonier is distinguished professor of geography at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

This book is a very straightforward explanation of what humanities scholars need to be aware of when using maps. As a history undergraduate this book has made me aware of many issues that I have never considered when it comes to using, creating and publishing maps as part of a scholarly or popular work. Although the technology section is a little dated, the information still translates well to today as software publishers still use default settings that may not be the best for humanities students. A good "how to" that reads more like a conversation than an instruction manual.

I have met Mark Monmonier several times. I am a practicing cartographer. I own and have read about six of his books. This is by far my favorite of his. Some of his books fall a little flat and lose their way in my opinion. Not this one. Incredibly useful, this book is an overlooked gem. It packs more information in its approximate 200 pages than a lot of \$100+ textbooks on cartography do. A must have for a cartographer. It is showing its age a little bit, but like most good cartography texts, the concepts and principles laid out within remain timeless. Great book. Cannot recommend enough!

I picked this up, having an interest in the topic, and it proved to be a rather valuable resource in a few cartographic examples assembled for humanities classes.

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