Counter Cartographies Collective

www.countercartographies.org
What is 3Cs?
Why Maps?

Maps are non-textual, non-grammatical, and non-linear
Maps are easy to produce or build on in a participatory and collective manner
Maps demand space & create place
Maps never need to be considered finished
Detroit Geographical Expedition

Direction of Money Transfers in Metropolitan Detroit

Oakland County
Pontiac
Pontiac Hills
Bloomfield Hills
Rochester
Troy
Brighton
Island Lake
Auburn Hills
Novi
Auburn
Southfield
Farmington
Novi
Ann Arbor
Ypsilanti
Wayne County
Plymouth
Redford
Dearborn
Deerfield
Oakland
Ypsilanti

Affluent
Middle Class
Suburbs
Slums

Transfer of Rental Profits
MAP OUT LABOR DAY on CAMPUS!!

What's your Labor like — toDay and everyDay?

Tell the story of what kind of labor you do on Labor Day and interview other university workers about theirs.

Talk to, tape and video each other, as we create our own documentary of what it means to live in a knowledge machine!

Draw group maps of spaces on campus where labor continues as normal— we'll do "field excursions" and "drifts" into the intestines of this 21st century factory.

When: Sept. 5th, 10am-2pm
Where: the Pit, by Daily Grind

What: cartographic and ethnographic interventions on campus during Labor Day
filling up the campus map. Please color-code places where you have seen people working today, and what kind of work.
preliminary results of the mapping
WHAT IS THE UNIVERSITY?
UNC is...

...a factory

University, especially research universities as an UNC, are engines of the knowledge economy.

In the center is some knowledge production, like a factory, creating it.

Knowledge is created in centers like this, which is the job of universities...

The greater challenge, however, is disseminating the knowledge and making sure it is useful and creating value...

...a functioning body

What are we trying to do is to produce a functioning body, the functioning body of an institution.

The institution itself is being designed to function as a body.

...producing your world

We are a world in the world.

We are a part of the world.

We are producers of the world.

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"I was detained for eight hours at Heathrow on my way to a UK conference I had been invited to – then I was sent back to the States for reasons that were unclear. Border agents could not even answer my questions regarding the laws. This has personally cost me thousands, ruined months of plans..."

US based hip-hop artist

"I've been studying in the UK for two years but each time I return from visiting my family in Pakistan, I have problems with border control. They don't trust I'm a student, and hold me for hours. Why don't you carry books if you're a student? I travel with my computer, so I use PDFs – they won't believe that. Now when I cross the border I take a few books just not to be hassled."

PhD student, QMary

Tuition fees have been an indispensable revenue stream for all UK universities since New Labour abolished free education. In 1998 they introduced contributions (up to £1,250 p/a). In 2006 top up fees were introduced, with a cap for home and EU students at £3,025 a year. The Con-Dems are proposing to lift the cap in 2011. In Scotland higher education is free for home and EU students.

Overseas student fees are not capped and provide a crucial income for universities. At QMary overseas students generally pay between £10,230 - £13,000 for BA studies and up to £34,000 for an MSc.

Overseas students make up only 9.1% of the student population at QMary. But their tuition fees amount to 48% of all tuition fees received (down from pre-crisis 66% in 2006).
Research Excellence Framework

The REF is a system for measuring 'academic output.' It reduces everything to a system of measure via bibliometrics. The system favours research relevant to industry and business and helps create a market of knowledge and education through their commodification. Co-operation between universities and companies is encouraged. Research funded by tax payers is turned into privately owned knowledge for companies. Competition amongst universities is promoted whilst the cooperation between independently acting researchers is stifled. The REF is crucial in deciding how much government funding each university receives. It allows government bureaucrats and politicians to discipline universities and university managers to discipline academic staff.

“I applied for a visa to study in the UK while I was studying in Japan – so it was the Tokyo embassy that issued it. And so when I arrived at Heathrow, the UKBA claimed that I was Japanese, not from New Zealand. ‘I'm sorry, your papers aren't in order’ - and they sent me back to New Zealand at huge personal cost.”

Student from New Zealand

Heathrow

Dept. for Business, Innovation, and Skills

The Dept. of Business, Innovation and Skills has had many name changes. In 1998 it was the Dept. for Education and Science. In 2001 it changed to the Dept. for Education and Employment. By 2003 it was the Dept. for Innovation, Universities and Skills. In was in 2010 that the Dept. lost all mention of either education or universities.

Vince Cable, MP is the State Secretary of State for Dept. Business, Innovation and Skills. He is the former chief economist for the oil company, Shell. Adrian Smith is
Tuition fees were introduced in 1998, putting an end to free higher education. In 2000 the Scottish government abolished up-front tuition fees. So in Scotland, university is still free for Scottish residents and EU citizens – but not for English students, who have to pay £1700p.a for most degrees. In England, fees for UK/EU students are capped at £3,290 (2010-2011), although there are strong pressures from the current government to increase them. International tuition fees do not have a cap: at QM, the highest annual tuition fee for a postgraduate degree is £34,000 (2010-2011).

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*Welcome to London! Now you are ready for enrolment at QM.*

Do you or your family have enough money to pay tuition fees up-front?*

- Flip a coin.

- Yes. Move forward 5 tiles.
- No! Move forward 1 tile.

You try to apply for a scholarship. Flip a coin 3 times.

- 🎉 You have won a scholarship. Congratulations! Move ahead 4 tiles.
- 🙃 You have not won a scholarship. Move forward 1 tile.

You will need:

1 British coin, an assortment of bottle to use as tokens, and 3 or more friends
A fellow student whom you secretly fancy invites you for a stroll along Regent’s canal. It’s autumn and the air is crisp.

Life is bright!

Partnership Tile

People get married for lots of different reasons. Ideas of love and commitment dominate their lives or marriage. People marry to increase their wealth, or because it’s the custom. Some want to or get married to someone of the same sex. Many people also do it to get access to citizenship or the right to stay in certain countries.

For visa application to the UK as of 31.01.2012 there already is a £1257 for a postal application. If you apply in person it’s £719.

Are you Tier 4 student Visa allowed to work? forward 1 tile.

Bureaucracy is a money-eating monster...

Maintenance: Have you had £7200 + £10650 = £17850 in your bank account for 28 days??

Flip a coin 3 times:

- Head: Move forward 2 tiles.
- Tail: Otherwise, move forward.

* Tier 4 student visa is only issued for full-time study. Only UK/EU/EEA students are able to study part-time.

Work and study is tough. You start missing classes. Can you switch to studying part-time?*

Yes. You become a part-time student and life is a bit easier. Move forward 2 tiles.

No. Move forward 1 tile.

*Inner London living expenses are calculated at £800 per month for the length of the course (9 months).
**This is the minimum annual tuition fee for an international undergraduate/postgraduate student at QMary for 2010/2011.
***You must be able to prove that the money has been available in your account for 28 days before the date you apply.