instructor notes **TYPES OF MAPS**

LOCATOR MAP

* “Newspaper” map
* Shows the location of an event
* Shows a single, or multiple, locations to illustrate a reading, etc.

REFERENCE MAPS

1. Political Maps
   * Shows countries, counties, boundaries, cities, etc.
   * Often multi-colored
2. Physical Maps
   * Shows mountains, rivers, plains, etc.
   * NOTE: Physical maps often show elements of political maps as black/grey lines as reference points.
3. Road Maps
   * Shows interstates, major routes of travel, roads
   * Street maps
4. Special Purpose Maps….everything else
   * Maps of parks, zoos, shopping zones….

THEMATIC MAP

1. Choropleth
   * Uses colors or shading to show data
   * Usually uses political boundaries
   * Easy to read. Easy to make. VERY common in textbooks and magazines.
   * Dangerous because of induction, classification, etc.
2. Dot distribution
   * Shows actual precise locations of phenomena
   * The “dot” can be a symbol or shape (a house, an X, a cross, etc.)
   * The map key will tell how “many” or “much” of the phenomenon a dot represents.
   * Dangerous because anything less than the minimum “dot” amount will not be shown on the map.
3. Proportional symbol
   * A “graph on a map”
   * Also called graduated symbol/circle map
4. Isoline
   * Not common in human geography, very common in physical geography
   * Shows lines of equal (“iso”) amount
   * Also called isopleth maps
   * Look for where the lines are close together – indicates zone of rapidly changing value.