

# TEACHING WITH ESRI STORY MAPS

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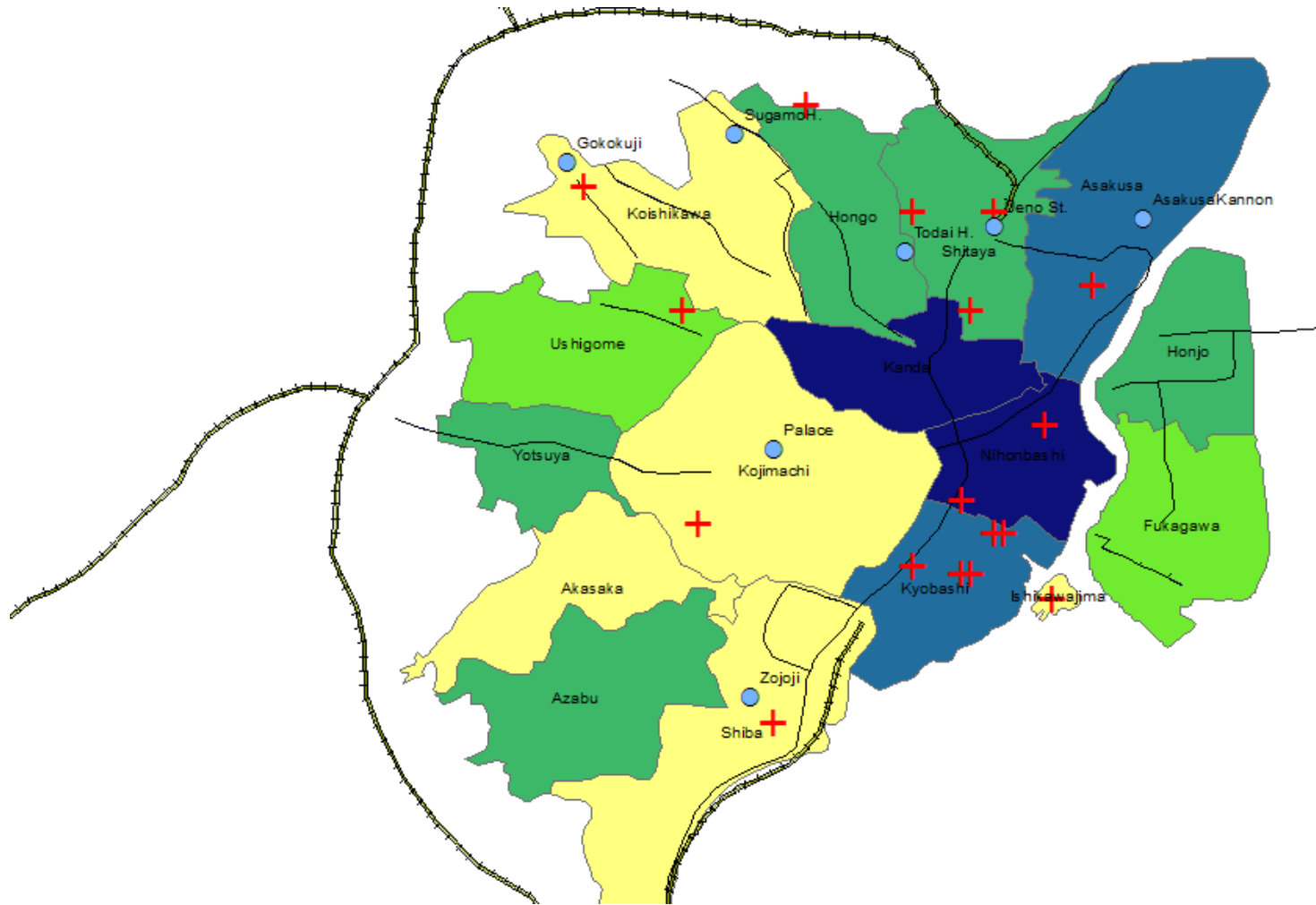
# Not to be confused with:

- Story Map JS (<https://storymap.knightlab.com/>)
- MapStory (<https://mapstory.org/>)
- But these are certainly worth exploring.

# What is Esri Story Maps?

- Online platform that allows you to combine maps, images, video, and text to create a narrative or make an argument.
- Free to you and your students with registration!
- No programming skills are required. Story Maps is easy to learn and use. Esri provides great support.
- Story Maps can be published online, making it possible to showcase student work. No server space or IT assistance is needed.

# Story Maps and Me



# History of Tokyo: Society and the City

- How can I help students grapple with the history of a city many of them have never visited?
- How can I help them understand how issues such as socio-economic class, ethnicity, etc. shaped life in the city at different moments and over time?
- How can I help them understand how this city changed due to natural disaster and man-made disaster and how these events affected those living in the city?

# Fundamental Skills

- Research skills—primary texts, images, and scholarly literature
- Writing skills
- Making an original argument

# Story Maps

- <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/en/>

# Types of Story Maps

Essentially predesigned templates designed for different types of projects

- Story Map Journal\*
- Story Map Tour\*
- Story Map Cascade
- Story Map Series
- Story Map Crowdsource
- Story Map Shortlist
- Story Map Swipe
- Story Map Spyglass
- Story Map Basic



# My assignment

- Create a story map journal that addresses lived experience in the city in a well defined historical moment.
- Must include at least 4 different maps that make use of analytic functions of Arc-online
- Must include images and text as well as the maps

# Student Work

- [Sento and Super Sento in Tokyo \(Zachary Gunther\)](#)
- [Visualizing Protest \(Sonia Schlesinger\)](#)
- [Tokyo Orphanages/WWII Legacy \(Lydia Lawrence\)](#)

# Sample assignment (included in the handout)

- Designed by Prof. Kate Craig for her World History course
- Group Project: [Around the World in 42 Objects](#)
- Students created individual Story Map Journals for the object they chose.
- These were then linked to Story Map Tour created by Craig.

# Another of Kate's ideas

- Upper-division course on medieval history
- Groups of 2-3 students worked together to create a Story Map Journal about a medieval traveler
- Example: [The Travels of Ibn Battutach, 1325](#)

# Value of Story Maps

- Teaches important skills (writing, research, geography, art history, history) in a new and visually appealing format.
- Students value the production of web content over reports and term papers.
- Exercise in public writing—how to write to appeal to a broad audience.

# Potential problems

- Students are not as tech-savvy as one might imagine.
- Students are resistant to non-standard assignments.
- How to grade them? (see the grading rubrics in my handout on sample assignments)

# Sources of Help

- [Esri Story Maps Support](#)
- [Youtube videos](#)
- Me! (slburns@uchicago.edu)