Chris Alen Sula is starting as Assistant Professor at the School of Information and Library Science at the Pratt Institute in Fall 2011. He received his PhD in Philosophy from the City University of New York. His research focuses on visual and interactive approaches to information (esp. quantitative information), as well digital humanities and the theoretical foundations of information science. His current work examines both visual representations and demographic analyses of scholarly disciplines, particularly philosophy.

LIS 697-13
THURSDAY, 6:30 - 8:50 PM

This course will examine the art, science, and practice of information visualization. We will explore the ways in which color, size, shape, motion, and interaction influence perception of information and how visualization techniques can aid comprehension of large and complex bodies of information. Topics will include cognition and visual perception, the aesthetics of visual media, techniques for processing and manipulating information for the purpose of visualization, and a comparative study of trees, charts, maps, diagrams, networks, and other visual approaches. Through critiques and labs, students will gain hands-on experience planning and evaluating visualizations and implementing them through a variety of commercial and open-source tools. Students will also gain in-depth knowledge of one or more tools through an individualized project that visualizes a dataset of their choice. Our focus throughout the course will remain user-centered - discovering new and creative ways of communicating information more effectively to diverse audiences.