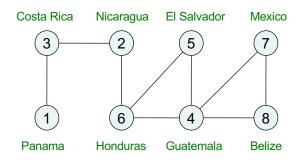
### Lecture 2: Why graphs?

#### A cartographer's problem





Graph specified by nodes and edges.

node = country edge = neighbors

*Graph coloring* problem: color nodes of graph with as few colors as possible, so that there is no edge between nodes of the same color.

## Exam scheduling

#### The registrar's problem



Schedule final exams:

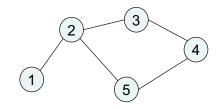
- use as few time slots as possible
- can't schedule two exams in the same slot if there's a student taking both classes.

### This is also graph coloring!

Node = exam

Edge = some student is taking both endpoint-exams

Color = time slot



# **Animal crossing**

#### Animals need to be ferried across a river

- Use as few boats as possible
- Cannot put two animals in the same boat if one will eat the other

This is, yet again, graph coloring!

Node = animal

Edge = one endpoint-animal will eat the other

Color = boat