

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: GEOG-105-Geography of British Columbia
CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: 2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-Person, Classroom

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Hilary Sandford

EMAIL: sandford@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Fisher 342C

HOURS: M, W, Th 1:30-2:30; T 4:30-5:30

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the physical and human geography of British Columbia. The course takes a topical approach in examining the physical, economic, resource, settlement and social geography of the province, with attention paid to the landscape, character and image of its regions.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C+ in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

Distinguish between regional and topical geography.

Use appropriate techniques and information sources in the geographic study of British Columbia.

Describe the physical and human geography of British Columbia.

Describe and analyze, using geographic themes and approaches, topics related to the Geography of British Columbia, such as resource management and use, settlement patterns and development, and regional identities and issues.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

There is no textbook for this course and, instead, a series of readings will be provided on *Perusall.com*, an interactive reading website. Course lecture and assignment materials will be available on Camosun College's learning management site, D2L.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK OF:	Tuesday	Thursday	ASSIGNMENT	READING
January 6	Course Introduction	BC Regions		
January 13	BC Physiography	BC Physiography	Lab 1: BC Forests	#1
January 20	BC Ecoprovinces	BC Ecoprovinces	Lab 2: BC Caribou	
January 27	BC Climate	BC Climate	Lab 3: Temperature & Precipitation	#2
February 3	Climate Change	Climate Change	Lab 4: Clean BC	
February 10	PATAT Assigned	Midterm Exam		
February 17	-----Reading Break-----			
February 24	Minerals	Fossil Fuels	Lab 5: Coal Mining	#3
March 3	Hydroelectricity	Softwood Lumber	Lab 6: Forestry	
March 10	Agriculture	Fishing	Lab 7: Food Security	#4
March 17	Provincial Parks	Presentations	Lab 8: BC Parks	
March 24	First Nations	First Nations	Lab 9: Nisga'a Nation	#5
March 31	Immigration	Immigration	Lab 10: Off-Diesel	
April 7	Left Coast	PATAT Due		

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Assignments	30
Pick-a-Town-any-Town Project	15
Readings	10
Midterm Exam	20
Final Exam	25
	TOTAL
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

There are multiple components to this course:

Lectures: I am choosing to structure this course along four themes: the physical characteristics of the province, the primary economic sectors and associated politics, the cultural past and present, and the social norms that are uniquely British Columbian. Each week there will be a traditional two-hour lecture, normally on Tuesdays.

Assignments: There are ten assignments in the course all of which focus on specific facets of each of the province. You will be given a week to complete a series of questions that pertain to a topic or a locale. Computer access will be required for most of the assignments as you will be referring you to a variety of websites and data sources but be cautious in your use and citation of sources – generative AI is not allowed for these assignments and will result in a zero score.

Pick-a-Town-Any-Town Project: You will be asked to choose a town in British Columbia and prepare an electronic multimedia presentation summarizing its attributes - physical, economic, political, and the social personality of your town.

Readings: In this course, I would like to introduce you to the scholarship found in BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly. I will ask you to read five articles over the course of the term – most of them long and involved – that present scholarly research and perspectives on British Columbia. In the spirit of reconciliation, I have chosen readings that explore the broad theme of “Whose Land Is It?”, the title of the opening reading for the term and a present-day issue for all of us. These readings will be examinable, and I will ask you to synthesize and comment on them through external software.

Tests: There will be two tests this term with the midterm exam on **Thursday, February 13th** and the final exam during the **Camosun College exam week in April**. The final exam schedule will be posted in February, and it is your responsibility to ensure you are available to write at the designated time. Attendance is mandatory and if illness or calamity arise, you must notify the instructor immediately.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines:

<https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes

