

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

GEOGRAPHY 104-01

GEOGRAPHY OF CANADA

Instructor: Barry Weaver
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Office Hours: Monday 9:30 - 11:30am
 Tuesday 9:30 - 10:30am
 Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30am
 Thursday 9:30 - 10:30am
 1:30 - 2:30pm
 or by appointment

“The political map of North America sustains the illusion that Canada is a continental giant spanning 70° of longitude, and some 40° of latitude; whereas on any long, clear-night flight, this Canada dissolves into an oceanic darkness spotted by occasional islands of light.”

***R. Cole Harris in
Regionalism and the Canadian
Archipelago***

Course Objectives

A cursory examination of the geography of Canada brings to mind the concepts of vastness and diversity. Vastness is based on the size of the country, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the United States border to the Arctic Ocean. On the other hand, diversity is an explanation of sentiments about and images of the parts of this country, the regions of Canada.

Using both a regional and topical approach, the content of Geography 104 looks at these concepts of vastness and diversity through an examination of the human use of the land, uses which are shaped by our relationships with the physical environment. It is hoped that upon completion of this course, you will have gained a better appreciation and understanding of the geography of Canada.

Course Text

The required text for the course is:

Robert M. Bone. *The Regional Geography of Canada*.
Toronto: Oxford University Press. 1999

The text offers well organized and very readable coverage of the subject matter.

Course Organization

The course consists of four hours per week. Lectures and labs are appropriately sequenced through the semester.

The lectures are designed to provide, clarify and enhance the basic material in the course and to introduce additional material not emphasized or contained in the text. Audio visual materials will also provide supplemental information.

There are seven lab exercises in the course. They are an integral part of the course as they provide an opportunity to apply or augment the lecture and text material to specific or practical examples.

Course Evaluation

Your grade for the course will be determined by your results in the following categories:

Exam # 1	25% of the total grade
Exam # 2	20% of the total grade
Exam # 3	20% of the total grade
Lab Exercises	25% of the total grade
Assignment	10% of the total grade

The three exams will include a mix of question-type i.e. short answer, map location, paragraph, and short essay. The exams will be based on the lectures, readings and exercises. The specific format for each exam will be discussed during the semester. The first two exams are scheduled during class times; whereas the third exam is scheduled during the final exam period. The dates for Exams # 1 and 2 are in the course schedule.

The lab exercises will vary in type. The date for each lab is shown in the course schedule. The due date for each lab will be identified when the lab is handed out. **Late exercises, unless accompanied with a doctor's note, will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day and after the fifth day will not be accepted.**

Each student will complete an assignment which focuses on understanding the geography of Canada. Format and due date for the assignment will be explained in class.

The letter grade and percentage distribution for the course is:

A+	95 - 100%	C+	65 - 69%
A	90 - 94	C	60 - 64
A-	85 - 89	D	50 - 59
B+	80 - 84	F	0 - 49
B	75 - 79		
B-	70 - 74		

(N.B. The last day to withdraw from the course without receiving a failing grade is Tuesday, November 6, 2001)

Course Schedule

<i>Week 1 (Sept. 3 & 5)</i>	No class Monday Sept. 3 (Labour Day) Canada: How much do we know? Introduction to the Course
<i>Week 2 (Sept. 10 & 12)</i>	Regional Geography and Themes of Canada Reading: Chapter 1 Exercise # 1: Perceiving Canada
<i>Week 3 (Sept. 17 & 19)</i>	The Physical Geography of Canada Reading: Chapter 2 The Physical Geography of Canada
<i>Week 4 (Sept. 24 & 26)</i>	Exercise # 2: Physical Geography of Canada The Human Geography of Canada Reading: Chapter 4
<i>Week 5 (Oct. 1 & 3)</i>	Atlantic Canada Reading: Chapter 9 Atlantic Canada
<i>Week 6 (Oct. 8 & 10)</i>	No class Monday Oct. 8 (Thanksgiving) Exercise # 3: Atlantic Canada
<i>Week 7 (Oct. 15 & 17)</i>	EXAM # 1 - October 15th Quebec Reading: Chapter 6

Week 8 (Oct. 22 & 24) Quebec

Exercise # 4: Quebec

Week 9 (Oct. 29 & 31) Ontario

Reading: Chapter 4

Ontario

Week 10 (Nov. 5 & 7) **Exercise # 5: Ontario**

Western Canada

Reading: Chapter 8

Week 11 (Nov. 12 & 14) **No class Monday Nov. 12 (Remembrance Day)**

EXAM # 2 - Wednesday November 14th

Week 12 (Nov. 19 & 21) Western Canada

Exercise # 6: Western Canada

Week 13 (Nov. 26 & 28) British Columbia

The North

Reading: Chapter 10

Week 14 (Dec. 3 & 5) **Exercise # 7: The North**

The North

Dec 10 - 18

EXAM # 3 in the Final Exam Period

