Course Syllabus

GEOG 2570: Geography of Canada


Course Description

The Undergraduate Calendar of The University of Manitoba describes GEOG 2570 as follows:

A regional study of Canada. Lectures are the same as those given during one term of GEOG 2560 (or 053.256). May not be held with GEOG 2560, 053.256, 053.330, GEOG 3430, 053.343, GEOG 3650 or 053.365. Prerequisite: a grade of “C” or better in a minimum of three credit hours from Geography courses numbered at the 100 level, or written consent of department head.

Geography is a multi-disciplinary science that analyzes variations in phenomena from place to place on the earth’s surface. Geography has traditionally been divided into physical geography, which examines the spatial patterns of the physical environment and attempts to understand why these patterns occur, and human geography, which examines and attempts to explain the spatial patterns of the cultural, social, and economic environments.

Geography can also be described as having both systemic and regional approaches to study. Systemic geography examines individual topics such as climate, geo-morphology, and population. On the other hand, the regional concept is an approach within the physical-human framework that has long been used to understand and describe the likenesses and differences of places on the earth’s surface. In defining a region, Broek (1965) says:

A region has some kind of internal homogeneity, which distinguishes it from surrounding areas. Its distinct character may be perceived in the uniformity of its landscape features or in its mode of life, or it may be inferred from the way all parts work together in a functional system. A region is an areal generalization.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain the regional nature of Canada;
2. Describe the major biophysical characteristics of the nation;
3. Explain the importance of the biophysical characteristics to Canada’s settlement and development;
4. Describe the major population characteristics of Canada and explain the importance of recent changes;
5. Identify the nation’s major historic events and explain how these have shaped and influenced the development of the nation and its regions;
6. Compare and contrast the settlement characteristics of each major region in Canada; 
7. Identify the nation’s major resource activities and explain how those have been important to the economic and political development the Canada and its provinces, and territories; 
8. Evaluate the recent trends (e.g., population change, resource development) in Canada and how these are affecting the nation and its regional relationships; 
9. Discuss, using examples, the dynamic nature of Canada; and 
10. Understand the themes and faultlines that are characteristic of Canada.

**Course Overview**

Our study of Canada focuses on several characteristics of Canadian Geography. Our topics include:

- The concept of regions
- Canada’s physical geography
- Important historic events and developments
- Population
- Economy
- Ontario
- Quebec
- Atlantic Canada
- Western Canada – the Prairie Provinces
- British Columbia
- The Territorial North
- Canada within the world

**Course Materials**

The required materials for this course are the textbook, and three articles from *The Canadian Geographer* all available online in the course website.

The following required materials are available for purchase from the University of Manitoba Bookstore. Please order your materials immediately, if you have not already done so.

**Required Resources**

**Readings/Textbooks**


The use of older editions of the textbook is not recommended.

**Supplementary Resources**
Access to the Internet is recommended. You will find some Internet resources at the end of each module. All of the addresses were current at the time of printing. The URLs, however, do change. If you find one that does not work, please let your instructor know.

Other resource materials, should you wish to explore topics in greater depth, may be obtained from your local library, through inter-library loans, or via other means. See <https://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/dafoe> for further guidance.

Do not ignore newspapers and current events magazines. Making use of current events in your answers to study questions and assignments can enhance your learning experience. Additionally, sketch maps are often appropriate in helping complete an answer. Additional maps of Canada can be found at many of the Government of Canada websites (e.g., Atlas of Canada, Statistics Canada, etc.)

**Learning Guide**

**Grading Scheme**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three Assignments (20 + 20+ 20)</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>Exceptional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>75 - 79</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>70 - 74</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>65 - 69</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60 - 64</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter Grade Percentage Range Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50 - 59</td>
<td>Marginal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 - 49</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: All final grades are subject to departmental review.

Evaluation Components

In this course, you will be evaluated on your three submitted assignments and on the final exam. Completion and submission of the three assignments and the final exam are requirements to pass the course.

GEOG 2570 Three Submitted Assignments:

Value: The Grading Scheme for each assignment includes marks for Presentation; Knowledge; Structure and Argument; Creativity.

Description: The three assignments, each comprised of written essays, will focus on topics relevant to the region(s) or subject material within the assigned reading assignments listed in each Unit. The assignments must be submitted by the due date (by 5:00 pm on the due date) and should include a well-written answers that use maps, figures and tables, where appropriate. Internet sources are permitted, but selected on the basis of their credibility.

Due Dates: These are listed in the Course Schedule.

If, for some reason, you are unable to meet the deadlines for the assignments, you must contact your instructor right away. NOTE: the three assignments and the final examination are mandatory requirements for this course.

Additional Information for Assignments

Assignment Guidelines

You are required to complete and submit assignments as the course progresses.

All of the assignments can be done using the text, course materials, and Internet sources. The assignments will be described in the weekly tasks throughout the course; please continue to check your Course Schedule, which will help you find out the exact due dates for the assignments.

Be sure that you read the grading of requirements and guidelines for submitting assignments before preparing your assignments and final paper.

Carefully read the instructions below so that you know what we expect in each assignment.
Each assignment must be written in the format specified in the assignment.

1. Follow the instructions for each assignment very carefully to ensure that you have included everything that is expected of you. Check to see that you have the required number of pages or words, as set out in the instructions.
2. Proofread your assignments to ensure proper mechanics and that you have included everything that is expected of you.
3. Assignments must be typed and double-spaced. Use a standard citation method for the Social Sciences (e.g., Geography which uses the APA style); and be consistent with its use throughout your papers. Your assignments must be submitted electronically using the 'submit assignment' function. This is found within the “Assignments” folder.
4. Plagiarism is a serious offense. If you use resources (books, discussions with others, etc.), cite your sources. Failure to do so is called plagiarism. You are expected to have read and understood the University of Manitoba’s Guidelines for Academic Conduct.
5. If you think that your assignment will be late, contact your instructor well in advance of the assignment due date. Instructors may deduct marks for late assignments if you have not made alternative arrangements.
6. You are responsible for seeing that your assignments are submitted as instructed. Do not rely on others to submit your assignments for you. Keep a copy of your assignments, in case it gets misplaced.

Submission Guidelines

Computer & Software

1. Use Microsoft Word doc. or save your file in a rich text format (rtf). [No pdf files.] Your instructor will use the 'track changes' function to grade your submitted assignments, and then return your graded assignments to you.
2. Submit one file only. Any parts of the assignment produced through another program (e.g., Excel) should be incorporated into the document.
3. It is recommended that, if you can, do insert tables or charts as pictures in your document. If, for some reason, the formatting is thrown off, place the tables, charts, maps at the end of the assignment as Appendix pages, but you need to refer to them within the written assignment content.

Title Page

Include a title page as the first page of your assignment that contains:

- Name
- Student I.D. number
- E-mail address
- Assignment name
- Total number of pages in your assignment
- Date
Page Header

Include a page header that consists of:

- Your name
- Your student I.D. number
- The page number

Assignment Submission

1. Send your assignments using the Assignments folder in UM Learn.
2. Filename: The name of your file should be your surname and the number of the assignment.

Marking

1. Please do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignment. We will not be responsible for any failure to receive your assignment by its due date. Your assignment grade should be posted in your grade center within two weeks of the assignment due deadline.

GEOG 2570 Final Examination:

Value: The Final Examination is worth 40% of your grade.

Date: The Date of the Final Examination is set by the Registrar's Office and will be scheduled within the Examination Period occurring at the end of the term.

Purpose: A comprehensive examination of the material covered in all eleven modules.

Description: An invigilated, closed-book, two-hour examination. You are not allowed any aids for the final examination and no electronic devices are allowed, such as cellphones, iPods, smartwatches, or smartphones. You are advised not to bring any electronic devices into the examination room.

A prospectus describing the exam format will be sent to all students a few weeks prior to the exam. The usual exam format is a combination of multiple choice and essay-type questions. The course textbook and course materials are the primary sources of information for the exam.

This is a mandatory requirement for this course.
Additional Final Examination

The final exam will be written at the University of Manitoba (UM), Fort Garry campus or at an approved off-campus location. **Students needing to write at an off-campus location must declare a location by the specified deadline date** (see off-campus declaration and policy under Student Resources on course homepage). **Students writing at the UM Fort Garry campus do not need to declare an exam location.**

The Registrar’s Office is responsible for the final exam schedule which is available approximately one month after the start of the course. The final exam will test your understanding of key facts and concepts, and your ability to integrate them with the various sections of this course.

Learner's Support

Student Accessibility Services

The University of Manitoba is committed to providing an accessible academic community. **Students Accessibility Services (SAS)** offers academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services
520 University Centre
Phone: (204) 474-7423
Email: Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Student Services

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, or have a disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should discuss these issues with the instructor and/or one of the following Student Affairs offices as soon as possible:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility Services</td>
<td>474-6213 (Voice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155 University Centre</td>
<td>474-9690 (TTY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Counselling and Career Centre</td>
<td>474-8592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>474 University Centre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Assistance Centre</td>
<td>474-9251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 Tier Building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Policies & Values

Please respect copyright. We will use copyrighted content in this course. I have ensured that the content I use is appropriately acknowledged and is copied in accordance with copyright laws and university guidelines. Copyrighted works, including those created by me, are made available for private study and research and must not be distributed in any format without permission. Do not upload copyrighted works to a learning management system (such as UM Learn), or any website, unless an exception to the Copyright Act applies or written permission has been confirmed. For more information, see the University’s Copyright Office website at http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/ or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Academic Integrity:

Example: Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University of Manitoba Academic Integrity principles. Always remember to reference the work of others that you have used. Also be advised that you are required to complete your assignments independently unless otherwise specified. If you are encouraged to work in a team, ensure that your project complies with the academic integrity regulations. You must do your own work during exams. Inappropriate collaborative behavior and violation of other Academic Integrity principles, will lead to the serious disciplinary action. Visit the Academic Calendar, Student Advocacy, and Academic Integrity web pages for more information and support.

Refer to specific course requirements for academic integrity for individual and group work such as:

I. Group projects are subject to the rules of academic dishonesty;
II. Group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity;
III. Students should also be made aware of any specific instructions concerning study groups and individual assignments;
IV. The limits of collaboration on assignments should be defined as explicitly as possible; and
V. All work must be completed independently, for student work in course GEOG 2570 D01.

Plagiarism, Cheating and Examination Impersonation

You should acquaint yourself with the University’s policy on plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation as detailed in the General Academic Regulations and Policy section of the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar.

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism

The University of Manitoba adopts the following policy regarding academic misconduct, which can be found in Section 3.15 of the Academic Calendar.
Academic misconduct is intentional cheating, fabrication, impersonation or plagiarism. It is also knowingly helping or attempting to help others to be dishonest. Academic dishonesty lowers scholastic quality and defrauds others who will eventually depend on their own knowledge and integrity. Plagiarism or any other form of cheating on examinations, term tests, or assignments is subject to academic penalty as serious as suspension or expulsion from the Faculty of University.

Students who are unsure of what constitutes academic misconduct are encouraged to visit the Student Affair’s website on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Fraud at: http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/academicintegrity/index.html and http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/academicintegrity/Academic-Integrity-policies-and-procedures.html

Students may also find Academic Integrity and Student Conduct Tutorials at http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/AI-and-Student-Conduct-Tutorials.html

Student and Academic Staff Responsibilities

The University of Manitoba has expectations regarding student behaviour. Policies concerning inappropriate or disruptive behaviour are online at: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/279.html

And policies regarding student discipline are online at: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/student_discipline.htm

In addition, policies regarding academic staff’s responsibilities regarding students (ROASS) are available online at: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/278.html

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