

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

GPHY 250: Geography of Canada



Contact Time	One 3 hour session per week/combined lectures and active learning
Format	In-class lectures, discussions, group activities and assignments/submissions based on course readings and independent research
Class Assessment	Participation and collaborative engagement (10%) Creative research assignments and responses (40%) Independent research project (25%) Final exam (25%)

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a comprehensive overview of the geography – or geographies – of Canada. Throughout the semester, we will examine many of the regions and subregions that make up Canada and consider what connects and distinguishes them. We will also learn to identify core concepts in geography and develop a close understanding of how these can be applied to the study of the country at large. These include concepts from historical geography, political geography, cultural geography, urban geography, economic geography, and physical geography, all of which will be used to examine the intricacies of space, place, and mobility in Canada. By taking the course, students will acquire a comprehensive understanding of Canada through a geographical lens and develop skills that will assist them in researching, writing, and teaching about Canadian geography.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Develop an in-depth knowledge of Canada and its multiple regions and subregions;
- Identify and apply core concepts, primarily from human geography, to the study of Canada;
- Enhance academic writing, presentation, critical thinking and research skills in relation to course materials.

COURSE TOPICS

Geographies of Treaty and Indigenous-settler relations; natural and non-renewable resource development; regional studies of Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, the prairies, Western, and Arctic/Subarctic Canada; geographies of demographic and social change; and others.

COURSE READINGS (subject to change each year):

Course materials will include readings and audio/visual materials designed to introduce students to a range of topics and subtopics pertinent to Canadian geography. Readings will consist of journal articles, book chapters, films, documentaries, podcasts, and other media that will inform and assist students in learning about course issues.