

COURSE OUTLINE GEOGRAPHY OF CANADA



In grateful acknowledgement of the L'kwungen & WSÁNE peoples within whose territories we live and learn.

Contact

Before reaching out, please review the course outline, as much valuable information is included there. You can reach me at: camo@uvic.ca (preferred) or 250-721-7330. I will aim to reply within 24 hours (not including weekends). Please do not leave important matters to the last minute. I host office hours on Mondays from 15:00-17:00 or by appointment.

Course Overview

Through lectures, discussions and a range of materials – readings, videos, podcasts, artwork – students will engage with the physical, cultural, historical, and political geographies of Canada. Topics include: Canada's place in the world, demography, physical setting, natural hazards, settlement & development patterns, colonialism, Indigenous displacement and resurgence, national identity and mythology; regional, colonial, & racial faultlines; critical social crises in Canada. The course invites students to grapple with multiple perspectives and ask important questions about Canada, seeking to be neither cynically dismissive nor uncritically celebratory.

Course Format

Barring significant changes in policies surrounding the pandemic, the course will be primarily delivered face to face in lectures/discussions delivered on most Mondays and Thursdays from 13:00-14:20 (Pacific Standard Time) through lecture/discussion sessions (see schedule).

The course has no midterm or major term paper, but rather you will be assessed on smaller, more frequent quizzes, discussion posts, and assignments starting right away in the first and second weeks (see schedule). Success in this course will depend on keeping on top of things week by week. There will be a final exam testing material from throughout the course.

Brightspace is the main course hub where you will access materials (e.g. the course outline, readings, links), complete guizzes, submit assignments, check your grades, and engage in forum discussions.

Textbook, readings, and other learning materials

There is no singular textbook for this course. Rather, Geog 306 involves a diverse range of materials including music, videos, podcasts and readings (scholarly and popular). These required sources of information will be available online (usually posted on Brightspace). These should be read, watched, listened to etc. thoroughly with copies/notes brought to class. Note: reading, watching, listening effectively is essential for success in this course and materials will be tested in periodic assignments/quizzes and/or on the final. Be mindful that simply reading (or watching/listening) without engaging with the material is useless in that the material has no chance of moving from short to long term memory. It is critical to mark up, highlight, take notes and critically reflect while reading. Invest time and effort and you will be rewarded.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated on the following required elements

Tentative course schedule

Wk.	Date & Topic	Work due dates				
Unit 1: Geographic Overview						

1 Jan 10

Learning Outcomes

This course presents an opportunity to learn about the geography of Canada, but more importantly an

Wk.	Date & Topic	Work due dates (before class
		[10:00] on this date)