

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
GGR 246—GEOGRAPHY OF CANADA
Summer 2014: Monday and Wednesday, 2-4pm**

Instructor:

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 11AM-1PM

Course Description:

This course examines the unique physical, economic, social and political regions that make up contemporary Canada. The course is organized around key themes that have shaped the Canada of today: the public administration of a large and diverse country, immigration and settlement trends, the relationship with Indigenous people, national unity and separatism, resource economies from coast to coast, and urbanization. We will conclude by examining the future of Canada and its place in the world.

A Few Ground Rules:

1. This is an intensive course that condenses the regular material from a twelve week course into three weeks. It will still contain all of the readings, writing assignments and tests as if the course was offered over an entire term. Given the intense workload over this short period, it is strongly recommended that you do not take other courses at the same time.
2. Please use e-mail judiciously. Do not ask questions about your assignments or course problems over e-mail that cannot be answered with one or two sentences. If you have a longer question, I will be happy to answer them during our office hours.
3. **Late Penalty:** Five (5) percentage points (of assignment grade) will be deducted for each day (both weekdays and weekend days count as one day) on all late assignments. Assignments will not be accepted later than five days after the due date. All late assignments must be submitted to the geography department drop box in front of the geography department front office (Room 5047) on the 5th Floor of Sidney Smith Hall. *Assignments by e-mail or fax will not be accepted.*
4. **Blackboard:** This course has a Blackboard site where PowerPoint Slides from class lectures, any required readings from journal articles that are not in the text book, and announcements will be posted. Please make frequent use of Blackboard as a useful reference point for this course.

5. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Any cases of plagiarism or cheating on exams or assignments will be handled in accordance with the University of Toronto's policies.
6. Test and essay questions will be drawn from the material in the text book and the content presented in the class lectures.

Text Book:

Bone, Robert (2014). *The Regional Geography of Canada, Sixth Edition*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

The book can be purchased as a hard copy through online booksellers or as an eText through the CourseSmart website (go to <http://www.coursesmart.com/> then insert the book title in the search window)

Evaluation:

- 20 percent: Assignment 1– Article response (Due July 16)
- 20 percent: Midterm quiz (July 23)
- 35 percent: Term Essay - Canada's prosperity at risk (August 11)

Write an essay that identifies the origins, causes, impacts and proposes creative solutions to a major risk to Canada's future prosperity.

25 percent—Final Exam (TBD – during schedule exam period)

Lecture Schedule, topics covered, and required readings

Day 1 – July 2: Course Introduction

- What is your Canada? Introduction to the physical, economic, social and political dynamics of Canada

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 1

Day 2 – July 7: Who is Canada?

- Canada's demographics, population growth trends; immigration and settlement patterns, multiculturalism

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 4

Day 3 – July 9: What is Canada’s Economic Base?

- Resources, manufacturing, tertiary, sustainable and alternative development.

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – pp. 17-24; 157-161;

Day 4 – July 14: Public Administration of Canada

- Roles and responsibilities of the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments; political geographies of Canada

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 3

Day 5 – July 16: Native Peoples in Canada

- Histories, regional settlement patterns, treaties and land claims, governance, resistance movements

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 3, pp. 150-156

Assignment 1 Due in class

Day 6 – July 21: Urban Canada

- Canada as an urban nation; Canada’s world cities; small cities in Canada

Day 7 – July 23: Midterm Exam

Day 8 – July 28: Trouble in the Heartland? The Prospects for Ontario

- Ontario as a ‘have’ and ‘have not’ province; decline of the manufacturing sector; post-industrial economies

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 5

Day 9 – July 30: Quebec and the Unity of Canada + The Future of Atlantic Canada

- Quebec as a distinct society; sovereignty movement; demographic transitions
- Atlantic Canada in search of new drivers of prosperity

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 6 and Chapter 9

Day 10 – August 6: ‘The West Wants in’ - Western Canada in Confederation

- Rapid population growth; Canada’s economic engine?; population migration from east to west; growing pains

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 7 and Chapter 8

Day 11 – August 11: Opening of the North + Course Wrap-up

- A new frontier in Canada’s security; economic opportunities; climate change
- Course wrap-up

Required Reading: Bone, 2014 – Chapter 10 and Chapter 11

Term Essay due

Final Exam – TBD – During Scheduled Exam Period