

# Geography of the United States and Canada

Geography 110

Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Steven Schnell                      Office Phone: 610-683-1595  
Office: 103 Graduate Center                      email: schnell@kutztown.edu  
Office Hours: M, W, F 11:00-12:00              website: <https://schnell92.wixsite.com/website>  
M 4:00-5:00  
Th 2:00-3:00  
And by appointment  
Zoom appointments available on request

## Textbooks and Resource Material:

- *The Geography of North America: Environment/Culture/Economy (2nd ed.)*, by Susan Wiley Hardwick et al.  
This book is available via Inclusive Access through the D2L page (under Content→Inclusive Access→Course Materials). This offers the lowest available price; if you prefer a physical copy, the bookstore can get these for you as well. You have until the end of the drop/add period to opt out of this program, but it is by far your cheapest option for getting the book.
- E-reserves – <http://library.kutztown.edu/er.php> -- password is “kup”

**Course Rationale:** A number of studies have shown that many Americans are not only geographically illiterate about the world, but know little about their own country and continent. In the United States, the United States faces many challenges both at home and abroad. You, as citizens and leaders of the early 21st century, will have the responsibility for constructively dealing with these problems. A detailed appreciation of the complex geography of North America will enhance both your personal and professional lives and make you better able to face the future. At the conclusion of this course, you should have not only a basic knowledge of the *whats* and *wheres* of North American geography, but also the *whys* and *hows*. Why is one region different from another? How do different geographical elements interact to create the cultural and physical patterns we see in North America?

## Grading Information:

3 non-cumulative tests @ 200 points each	600
Assignments	200
Map Quizzes	100
<u>Participation/Attendance</u>	<u>100</u>
	1000

This class will have several exams, which will cover material from both the reading assignments and the lecture material. Active attendance (that is, listening, thinking, taking notes, and asking questions) is vital to your doing well in the course, since the majority of test questions will come from lecture. Be forewarned: I don't lecture straight “from the book”, so if you miss class, you're missing new material. Attendance will be checked periodically during the semester on unannounced days. Your attendance/participation portion of the grade will be calculated, in part, based on the percentage of check-days you were present. For example, if I check attendance 10 times, and you were there for 7 of those days, you'll get 70 of the 100 possible attendance/participation points. I then will modify this grade at the end of the semester based on your level of participation in your class – this can make a significant difference in your final grade! Only pre-excused absences will be exempt. You will also have several writing assignments during the course of the semester that will make up a portion of your grade. Final class grades will be assigned using a traditional 90% = A, 80% = B, etc. scale.

**Exam Make-Up Policies:** Make-up exams and quizzes will be given only in the case of a genuine, documented emergency or illness, or a University-excused absence (for a class field trip, for example). Makeups must be arranged with me **BEFORE** the time of the test, except in emergencies. NO late exercises will be accepted. No makeup exams or quizzes will be given once the tests have been returned to the class, regardless of circumstances. Exams will all be given via D2L and Zoom this semester; quizzes will be held in-person on your assigned in-class day for the week that they are scheduled.

**Phones and other electronic geegaws:** The rule regarding electronics is simple: None allowed. No laptops. No phones. No texting. If you want to get on my bad side, a very good way to do it is to text during class, or check your messages. Turn all electronic devices off before entering my (or any) class; I don't want to see them.

### Academic Honesty:

I have NO tolerance for plagiarism or cheating. If you cheat, or attempt to pass off work that is not yours as your own, you will AUTOMATICALLY fail the course and your name will be forwarded to the appropriate disciplinary authorities for the Geography Department and the University. This can result in permanent expulsion from the University. Refer to your student handbook for specific guidelines regarding academic dishonesty.

### Use of D2L:

I use D2L for posting of grades, and for posting links to various class materials, as well as additional copies of all assignment sheets. You will hand in all assignments in paper form.

## Tentative Schedule

Tentative Schedule		readings/assignments/quizzes
August 29	Introduction	Chapter 1 & 2
August 31	Historical Settlement of North America	-----
September 2	Historical Settlement of North America	Chapter 3 & e-reserves
September 5	<b>LABOR DAY - NO CLASSES</b>	-----
September 7	Maritime Provinces (The Atlantic Periphery)	Chapter 5 and e-reserves
September 9	Maritime Provinces	-----
September 12	New England	-----
September 14	<b>No in-person class</b>	-----
September 16	<b>No in-person class</b>	-----
September 19	Quebec	Chapter 6 and e-reserves
September 21	Quebec	-----
September 23	Nationalism in Canada/Ontario	<b>pp. 161-162 from ch. 8</b>
September 26	Ontario	<b>Map quiz 1/Chap. 7 and e-reserves</b>
September 28	Megalopolis	-----
September 30	<b>EXAM 1</b>	-----
October 3	Appalachia	e-reserves
October 5	Appalachia	-----
October 7	Appalachia	-----
<b>October 11</b>	<b>Tuesday!! Appalachia</b>	<b>Assignment 1 Due</b>
October 12	Midwest (Great Lakes and Corn Belt)	Chapter 8, e-reserves
October 14	Midwest	-----
October 17	Midwest	-----
October 19	Midwest	-----
October 21	The South	Chapters 9-10, e-reserves
October 24	The South	-----
October 26	The South	-----
October 28	The South	<b>Map Quiz 2</b>
October 31	The South	-----
November 2	<b>EXAM 2</b>	-----
November 4	Great Plains/Prairie Provinces	Chapter 11 and e-reserves
November 7	Great Plains/Prairie Provinces	-----
November 9	Great Plains/Prairie Provinces	-----
November 11	The West	-----
November 14	The West	Chapter 12 & 13 & e-reserves
November 16	The West	Chapter 14 & e-reserves
November 18	Southwest	-----

November 21	Southwest/Utah	<b>Assignment 2 due</b>
November 23	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO CLASSES</b>	-----
November 25	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO CLASSES</b>	-----
November 28	Utah	-----
November 30	California	Chapter 15 & e-reserves
December 2	California	-----
December 5	California/Pacific Northwest	Chapter 16 & e-reserves
December 7	Pacific Northwest	<b>Map Quiz 3</b>
December 9	Pacific Northwest	-----
<b>EXAM 3</b>	<b>Monday, December 12, 11am-1pm</b>	