Instructor: Dr. Peter Hayward  
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Office Hours: M, W, F: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (or by appointment)

Course Description and Goals  
Geography is an amazing discipline that examines the relationship between humans and the natural environment, also known as human-environmental interactions. In this course, we will focus on these interactions within the U.S. and Canada specifically. Using a thematic approach, we will analyze the U.S. and Canada in order to understand and appreciate their geographic qualities and characteristics. Thus, we will investigate not only the broad human and physical geographic traits of the areas, but also the specific attributes of U.S. and Canada such as agriculture, population, industry, urban issues, and politics. In doing so, the past, present, and future geographic context of the countries will be highlighted.

Texts  
- McCullough, D. *Johnstown Flood*.
- Frazier, I. *Great Plains*.

Policies  
- **Attendance**: is expected of each student. An official, written excuse is required for missed quizzes, participation points, and tests. If you are absent, it is imperative that you obtain the lecture notes you missed from a fellow student.

- **Noise**: please turn off all cell phones, and refrain from talking in class. Be polite to your fellow students.

- **Attentiveness**: we will move quickly in this class, so be alert and try to work efficiently. You are not allowed to do the following during class: read newspapers, play computer games, text message (or talk on cell phone), or anything else that does not directly relate to the content of this course.

- **Clarity**: it is my responsibility to present the course material in a clear, concise manner. If anything is unclear, please bring your concerns to my attention. You can speak with me before-during-after class, via email, during my office hours, or at another specified time.
• **Attitude:** have a good attitude about being in class. You are not required to attend class; therefore, if you come, be positive. Remember, your post-secondary education is your choice. You are paying for a service—get the most out of it!

• **Text Readings:** it is your responsibility to read the relevant chapters from the textbook as well as both non-fiction books in their entirety. Note the final due dates for those readings!

• **Emergency Evacuation/Shelter-in-Place Procedures:** in the event of an emergency evacuation (i.e., fire or other emergency), classes meeting in this building are directed to reassemble at IRC Lobby so that all persons can be accounted for. Complete details of the College’s emergency evacuation, shelter-in-place and other emergency procedures can be found at [http://www.oneonta.edu/security/](http://www.oneonta.edu/security/).

**Grading**
The grades are distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Homework Assignments</td>
<td>30 Points (10 Points Each)</td>
<td>370 – 400 Points = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Map Quizzes</td>
<td>45 Points (15 Points Each)</td>
<td>360 – 369 Points = A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Tests</td>
<td>300 Points (100 Points Each)</td>
<td>350 – 359 Points = B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
<td>330 – 349 Points = B</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>320 – 329 Points = B-</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>310 – 319 Points = C+</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>290 – 309 Points = C</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>280 – 289 Points = C-</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>270 – 279 Points = D+</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>250 – 269 Points = D</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>240 – 249 Points = D-</td>
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<td>0 – 240 Points = F</td>
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• **Homework Assignments:** the homework assignments will reflect lecture and material from all three texts required for class. There will be a selection of multiple choice, true/false, matching, and short answer questions. Upon receipt, you will have 1 week to complete the assignment. Late assignments will be accepted; however, a 25% penalty per day will be incurred.

• **Map Quizzes:** the map quizzes will reflect the themes we cover in this class. You will be provided with several maps which outline the political, physiographic, climatic, and other characteristics of the areas. You are responsible for all information identified on the maps. There will be a selection of multiple choice, true/false, matching, and short answer questions. Map quizzes can only be made up if the student presents an official, written excuse.

• **Participation:** participation points will be used to reward good attendance and the “participation” of students in class discussions. In other words, “just showing up” will not guarantee that participation points will be awarded. Most Fridays will be designated for discussion. On that day, a student will be asked at random to present
an original, debatable topic relevant to the class. Thus, students must be prepared to present topics on a weekly basis. If one of your peers uses your original topic, it is your responsibility to derive a new subject for debate. Topics must be typed and organized accordingly. On some Fridays, our discussion will be limited to the books required for class. Note the final due dates for those readings! Participation points will be unannounced, and it can only be made up if the student presents an official, written excuse.

- **Tests:** the tests will reflect lecture and material from all three texts required for class. There will be a selection of multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer questions, and essay questions. Test 3 will be the final examination; 25% of which will be cumulative-based. Tests can only be made up if the student presents an official, written excuse.

- **Bonus:** 5 bonus points will be made available to each student. The bonus will be unannounced and it cannot be made up.

**Schedule**
The following schedule is tentative and is subject to changes by Dr. Hayward.

Week 1 (School week beginning...January 18\(^{th}\)): Introduction to Geography

Week 2 (…January 25\(^{th}\)): Introduction to U.S. and Canada; Physical Features

Week 3 (…February 1\(^{st}\)): Physical Features

Week 4 (…February 8\(^{th}\)): Physical Features; Climate

**Homework Assignment 1 due February 12\(^{th}\)**

Week 5 (…February 15\(^{th}\)): Population Geography

**Map Quiz 1 on February 17\(^{th}\)**

Week 6 (…February 22\(^{nd}\)): Spring Break 1; go have fun

Week 7 (…March 1\(^{st}\)): Population Geography

**Test 1 on March 1\(^{st}\)**

Week 8 (…March 8\(^{th}\)): Political Geography

**Homework Assignment 2 due March 10\(^{th}\)**

**Johnstown Flood due March 12\(^{th}\)**

Week 9 (…March 15\(^{th}\)): Agriculture and Industry

Week 10 (…March 22\(^{nd}\)): Transportation and Communication

**Map Quiz 2 on March 24\(^{th}\)**
Week 11 (…March 29th): Cities and Urban Neighborhoods
**Homework Assignment 3 due March 31st**
**Test 2 on April 2nd**

Week 12 (…April 5th): Spring Break 2; go have fun

Week 13 (…April 12th): Urban Ills and Related Issues

Week 14 (…April 19th): Medical Geography

Week 15 (…April 26th): Human Impact Analysis

Week 16 (…May 3rd): Future of U.S. and Canada
**Map Quiz 3 on May 5th**
**Great Plains due May 7th**

Week 17 (…May 10th): Review for Final Examination
**Test 3 (subject to University schedule)**