


GEOG 2011A – Ontario and the Great Lakes Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2020



Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the [Digital Student Experience](https://www.uwo.ca/dse/) website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

1. Technical Requirements



Internet connection



Laptop or computer

2. Course Information



Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
Online		

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 2 - 8	December 9	December 10	December 11 - 22

* September 17, 2020: Last day to add a first-term half course

** November 12, 2020: Last day to drop a first-term half course without penalty

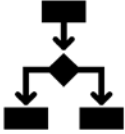


Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Dr. Wendy Dickinson	whdickin@uwo.ca	By Appointment

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
TBA on OWL		

3. Calendar Description

A detailed examination of the province as part of the Great Lakes region, with special reference to its historical development, natural resources and patterns of human and economic activity.



2.0 lecture hours, 0.5 course
Antirequisite(s): N/A
Prerequisite(s): N/A

4. Textbook

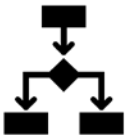


All resources will be posted in OWL

5. Course Objectives and Format

Geography 2011 will provide students with an overview of the physical, social, economic, environmental and political geography of Ontario and the Great Lakes Region. Given the broad nature of the course topic the focus of the lectures and required readings will be quite varied and rely on multiple sources from various disciplines. In addition, students can expect to see news articles, documentaries, and websites presented.

Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual asynchronous	N/A	4 hours	weekly



All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). [Using the right browser is important, especially when using different features integrated with OWL]

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

6. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes from this course include expanded knowledge of the physical, cultural, economic, and political geography of Ontario, an increased understanding of the state of the environment in the Great Lakes region, and improved map reading skills and geographic knowledge. Specifically:



- ✓ Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the fundamental characteristics, processes, temporal changes and landscapes of social and biophysical systems and their interactions.
- ✓ Demonstrate informed awareness of geographical diversity through knowledge of different places and understanding of the processes that shape them spatially and over time.
- ✓ Critical and reflective reading, listening, thinking.

7. Communication



- Important information about the course will be available on OWL.
- There will be announcements to remind you about Mini-Assignments and the Two Assessments.
- Please use only your **uwo e-mail account** to communicate with the instructor and the TAs. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- Emails will be monitored daily, Monday – Friday; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

- 5 Mini-Reflections: 6% each = 30% in total (see OWL for due dates)
- Great Lakes Assessment: 35% (Date TBD in the middle of term)
- Ontario Assessment: 35% (Date TBD in the December Exam Period)

- All Mini-Reflections are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- The Great Lakes and Ontario Assessments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- Students will have unlimited submissions to Turnitin

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.



A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late Mini-Reflections without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty of 2 marks per day. So, if you are one day late, the maximum grade you can receive for that reflection would be 4/6. Two days late 2/6, and three days late 0/6.
- Late Mini-Reflections with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report. They should be submitted by email to the instructor.
- Make-up assessments will be offered for both the Ontario and the Great Lakes Assessments, date TBD. These will only be available to those who are approved for a make up by their Dean's Academic Counselling Office.

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.

9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

10. Make-up Assessments

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided to the Academic Counselling Office within 48 hours of the scheduled exam, otherwise the instructor will assign a grade of zero.

The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled assessment.

11. Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

All required assessments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

12. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website.

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available.

13. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's Health and Wellness website for more information on mental health resources.

14. Support Services

Western's Support Services
Student Development Centre

15. Important Dates

September 9: Classes resume

September 17: Last day to add a first term half course

October 12: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

November 2 to November 8: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

November 12: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

November 30: Last day to drop a full course without penalty

December 9: Classes end

December 10: Study day

December 11-22: Examination Period