

GEOG 2011A- Ontario and the Great Lakes Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2021

1. Course Information



| | Delivery Mode | Day/Time | Location |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lecture | In-person | Wednesdays 7-9pm | SSC 2050 |
| | | | |

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 7

| Classes Start | Fall Reading Week | Classes End | Study day(s) | Exam Period |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| September 8 | November 1-7 | December 8 | December 9 | December 10-21 |

September 16, 2021: Last day to add a first-term half course

October 11, 2021: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 12, 2021: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

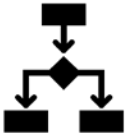


| Course Instructor | Contact Information | Office Hours |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Dr. Wendy Dickinson | whdickin@uwo.ca | By appointment |

| Teaching Assistant(s) | Contact Information | Office Hours |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Posted on OWL | Posted on OWL | Posted on OWL |

2. 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 lecture hours, 0.5 course

Antirequisite(s): N/A

Prerequisite(s): N/A

Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility

3. Textbook

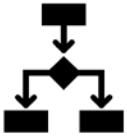


All resources will be posted in OWL

4. 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.

Insert Course Objectives



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.

5. 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.

6. Communication



- Important information about the course will be available on OWL.
- Reminders about assessments and the assignments will be posted in Announcements.
- Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL “messages”
- 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

7. Course Content and Schedule



| Week | Dates | Topic | Readings |
|------|--------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Sept 8 | Physical Geography | Posted on OWL |
| 2 | Sept 15 | Social Geography and Sprawl | Posted on OWL |
| 3 | Sept 22 | Economic Geography | Posted on OWL |
| 4 | Sept 29 | Heartland, Hinterland, and Region-State | Posted on OWL |
| 5 | October 6 | Ontario Assessment | From 6 – 10 pm on OWL remotely |
| 6 | October 13 | Great Lakes | Posted on OWL |
| 7 | October 20 | Great Lakes | Posted on OWL |
| 8 | October 27 | Great Lakes | Posted on OWL |
| 9 | November 1-5 | Reading Week | N/A |
| 10 | November 10 | Great Lakes | Posted on OWL |
| 11 | November 17 | Great Lakes Assessment | From 6 – 10 pm on OWL remotely |
| 12 | November 24 | Northern Ontario | Posted on OWL |
| 13 | November 31 | NO CLASS | |
| 14 | December 8 | NO CLASS – Assignment due on OWL | |

8. Evaluation

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

| Assessment | Format | Weighting | Due Date |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Ontario Assessment | Short answer | 40% | Oct 6 6-10pm |
| Great Lakes Assessment | Short answer | 40% | Nov 17 6-10pm |
| Northern Ontario Assignment | Written response | 20% | Dec 8 11:55 pm |
| | | | |

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.



- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

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:



- 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.
- Late assignments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report.

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 test or examination.

11. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.



12. Continuity of Education Plan (in-person class pivoting to online learning)

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the university to direct courses move away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading

scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

13. Information on COVID-19

Masking Guidelines

Students will be expected to wear triple layer, non-medical, paper masks at all times in the classroom as per University policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask must seek formal accommodation through Western Accessible Education, and present medical documentation.

Students are not permitted to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Course Absences due to Daily COVID Screening Questionnaire

Missed assessments (e.g., presentations, essays, quizzes, tests, midterms, etc.) require formal academic considerations (typically self-reported absences and/or academic counselling).

14. 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.

15. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography and Environment 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.

16. 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.

17. Support Services

Western's Support Services
Student Development Centre

18. Important Dates

September 8: Classes resume

September 16: Last day to add a first term half course

October 11: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

November 1 to November 7: 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 8: Classes end

December 9: Study day

December 10-21: Examination Period