



## GEOG-210 – Geography of British Columbia

University Arts and Science

**Effective Term & Year:** Fall 2022

**Course Outline Review Date:** 2026-04-01

**Program Area:** Math and Sciences

### Description:

This course presents a regional geographic analysis of British Columbia and investigates the physical, cultural, economic, and historical characteristics of the various provincial regions. This course also examines patterns of settlement and development, with particular emphasis on industries of importance to the Columbia Basin region, including forestry, mining, and tourism.

### Program Information:

This course can be used as either a required course or an elective in several University Studies Programs. Refer to the College Program Calendar for additional information.

**Delivery Methods:** On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online

**Credit Type:** College of the Rockies Credits

**Credits:** 3

**Course type/s:** Sciences, Social Sciences

### Instructional Activity and Hours:

| Activity  | Hours |
|---|-------|
| Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction | 45    |
| Seminar/Tutorials                                 |       |
| Laboratory/Studio                                 |       |
| Practicum/Field Experience                        |       |
| Co-op/Work Experience                             |       |

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Other

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Total | 45 |
|-------|----|

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### Course Requisites:

- Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
  - [ENFP 12](#) – English First Peoples 12
  - [ENST 12](#) – English Studies 12
  - [ENGL090](#) – English – Provincial Level

### Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

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### Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

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### Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

McGillivray, B., *Geography of British Columbia: People and Landscapes in Transition*. Vancouver: 4th Ed. UBC Press, 2020.

*Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.*

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## Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- recognize the characteristics of the various regions of British Columbia;
- summarize the basic physical processes which have shaped the landscape;
- read and analyze maps of British Columbia and Canada;
- evaluate natural hazard risks in the province;
- identify specific ethnic composition patterns and how they began, specifically First Nations, Europeans, and Asians;
- discuss the relative importance of major B.C. industries;
- describe the patterns of settlement for different cultural groups;
- analyze the role of water in British Columbia;
- critique the place of tourism as a growing B.C. industry;
- examine the unique situation of single-resource communities;
- distinguish the Columbia Basin as a particularly noteworthy region of the province; and
- present an informed analysis of the physical and human geography of British Columbia and its regions.

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## Course Topics:

**The content of the course will include, but is not limited to, the following:**

- Geography techniques and concepts
- Physical processes and human implications
- Overview of the Geography of BC
- Geophysical hazards: Landscapes of Risk
- Historical Geography: European Impact
- First Nations: Reclaiming the Land
- Geography of Racism: Spatial Diffusion of Asians
- Resource Management in a Global Economy
- Forestry: The dominant industry
- The Salmon Fishing Industry: Mobile Resource Management
- Metal Mining: The Opening and Closing of Mines, including a special focus on the Sullivan Mine
- Energy Supply and Demand, including the Elk Valley
- Agriculture: The land and what it can produce including the Kootenay River region and Creston.
- Water: The Critical Resource
- Tourism B.C. and the Rocky Mountains/East Kootenay in Particular
- Manufacturing, Transportation and Trade
- Single Resources Communities

- The Urbanization of BC
- The Columbia Basin Region and the Columbia Basin Trust

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

## Evaluation and Assessments

### Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

| Assessment Type                        | % of Total Grade |
|--|------------------|
| Class Assignments                      |                  |
| Assignment #1                          | 10%              |
| Assignment #2                          | 10%              |
| Mapping Assignment                     | 5%               |
| Research Project                       | 20%              |
| Research Presentation                  | 5%               |
| Weekly Reading Quizzes and Discussions | 15%              |
| Midterm                                | 15%              |
| Final Exam                             | 20%              |
| Total                                  | 100%             |

## Grade Scheme

| A+   | A     | A-    | B+    | B     | B-    | C+    | C     | C-    | D     | F   |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| >=90 | 89-85 | 84-80 | 79-76 | 75-72 | 71-68 | 67-64 | 63-60 | 59-55 | 54-50 | <50 |

**Evaluation Notes:** A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

### Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

### Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
  - Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
  - Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
  - Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
  - Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty
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### **Course Changes:**

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.