

GEOG 3501: Geographies of the Canadian North

Winter 2024

COURSE OUTLINE – Full Syllabus provided in class

Instructor: Dr. Emilie Cameron
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Lecture: 3 hours, Wed 11:35am-2:35pm

This course involves learning about the Canadian North but also questioning the kinds of knowledges that are produced and circulated about northern peoples and lands. We will begin by examining a range of knowledge traditions through which outsiders have made sense of the Arctic and Subarctic, including exploration, art and culture, anthropology, and science. We'll consider how these systems of knowledge informed (and continue to inform) colonial, capitalist, and nation-building processes in Canada, and consider Inuit, Dene, and other northern Indigenous peoples' responses to these processes and ideas, as well as Indigenous knowledges and practices that do not primarily refer to outsiders. To do so, we will engage in a process of "learning to learn" how to engage with northern Indigenous knowledge systems, with particular emphasis on the works of northern Indigenous intellectuals, artists, political leaders, and harvesters. We will then examine some contemporary issues shaping life in the contemporary Arctic and Subarctic, including struggles over land, title and jurisdiction, wildlife and wildlife management, resource extraction, health and healing, and climate change.

Emphasis will be placed on class discussion and on the assigned readings, which will be discussed each week and integrated into exams and assignments.

Course Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain critical geographic approaches and their relevance to understanding the Canadian North;
- Identify key geographical features in the region;
- Describe and critically analyze northern histories, societies, lands, and contemporary issues;
- Demonstrate a capacity to engage sensitively and respectfully with Indigenous systems of knowledge and practice, and appreciate their importance for understanding the Canadian North;
- Deconstruct oral, written, and visual representations of the North.

Course Readings:

- Are available online in the ARES system

Course Schedule and Readings

Date	Topic	Deadlines/Notes
Jan 10	Introduction	
Jan 17	Critical approaches to the North	
Jan 24	Learning to learn: Indigenous knowledge systems	In-class reflection exercise
Jan 31	Anthropology, culture, and tradition	Map quiz

Feb 7	Physical geography of the North	Guests: Derek Mueller and Yulia Antropova
Feb 14	Sovereignty	In-class writing exercise #1
Feb 21	READING WEEK	NO CLASS
Feb 28	Land claims and treaties	
Mar 6	Midterm exam	Midterm exam
Mar 13	Resource extraction	
Mar 20	Climate change	
Mar 27	Health and healing	In-class writing exercise #2
Apr 4	Review	Take-home final distributed

Evaluation

In-Class Writing Exercises and Map Quiz (20%)

- There will be 1 in-class map quiz (worth 10%, **January 31**), and 2 in-class writing exercises (worth 10% total; **February 14** and **March 27**).
- ****There are no make-up writing exercises or quizzes for students who miss class on those days**.** However, only 1 in-class writing exercise will count toward your grade. Students who miss one of the in-class writing exercises can still get marks for the second one. Students who write both in-class writing exercises can choose their highest grade. If you are happy with your first in-class writing exercise grade you can skip the second one.

Midterm Exam (25%) – Online, March 6

- The midterm will emphasize course readings, lecture materials, and discussion up to and including February 28.
- The midterm will be completed online.
- Additional details will be provided in class.

Participation (20%)

- Participation is a crucial component of this class.
- In-class participation (10%) includes attendance, doing thorough and critical readings of the assigned materials, contributing effectively to class discussions, and responding to your peers effectively. One or two absences per term will not affect your participation grade. After that, marks will be deducted for absences.
- Weekly reading notes (10%). Each week, students are required to post 200-300 word notes responding to the assigned readings. Notes are due by 10pm on Tuesdays (before class) and evaluated on a pass/fail basis (worth 2.5% each).
- Notes may be submitted for readings on the following six dates: **Jan 17, Jan 24, Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 28, Mar 13, Mar 20**. Students who submit more than four reading notes can drop their lowest mark(s). If you submit and pass 4 you will receive full marks.

Take-Home Final Exam (35%) – Due 9:00am, April 25, 2024

The final exam will be a take-home exam. The exam will be distributed on April 4 and content relevant to the final exam will be presented in class that day. Additional details will be provided in class.

Course Policies

Grades:

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

ABS = Student absent from final exam

DEF = Deferred (see below)

FND = (Failed, no Deferred) = Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam

Standing in a course is determined by the course Instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the Instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. Standing in the course will be shown by alphabetical grades.

COVID: It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. There are a number of actions you can take to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette. **If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus.** If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's Environmental Health and Safety website](#).

Masks: Masks are not currently mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, public health officials continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. If you test positive for COVID, have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, or are unwell, please do not attend class that day.

Laptops and Cellphones: Laptop and cellphone policies are designed to encourage a productive, engaging, and positive learning environment for all students. I understand that some students prefer to type notes rather than write notes using a pen and paper. Responsible use of laptops is permitted, although students are encouraged to put laptops away during class discussions and to take notes using pen and paper.

Students using their laptops to check email, social media, or other non-course related activities will be asked to leave their laptops at home. Cell phones are not permitted in class. If you are expecting an urgent call, please ensure the ringer is off and please step outside. If you require use of a laptop for other reasons, please discuss this with the instructor.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Students are reminded of the seriousness with which Carleton University treats academic dishonesty of any form, particularly plagiarism.

The University Academic Integrity Policy (<http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity/>) defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission or assessed content prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course. ***It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the regulations concerning academic integrity and to ensure that your course work conforms to the principles of academic integrity.***

Statement on generative AI (i.e., ChatGPT):

Any use of generative AI tools to produce assessed content is considered a violation of academic integrity standards, as noted above. This includes not just your written assignments (i.e., essay outline and final essay) but also your oral contributions to class (contributions to class discussion, oral presentations, and other forms of oral participation). Using generative AI tools in this course undermines the development of core academic skills your assignments are meant to support, including reading and comprehension skills, critical analysis skills, and effective oral and written communication skills. Use of generative AI could result in a mark of “0” on the assessed content or referral to the Associate Dean for potential violation of Carleton’s academic integrity policy.

Statement on Student Mental Health: As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Lateness and Missed Class Policy: Attendance is mandatory in this class. Late arrival and early departure from class will impact participation grades. Students who miss tutorial will not be given make up assignments or activities. Students who miss the midterm will not be permitted to write a make-up exam (except in cases of emergency). Late essays will be deducted 5% per day, including weekends and holidays. Students assume all risk for lost or missing materials. Please be sure to keep a back-up electronic copy of your assignments.

Extenuating Circumstances: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with extenuating circumstances (i.e. out of your control). Any requests for deadline extensions should be made to the instructor in advance of the deadline, where possible. In case of missed deadlines due to unforeseen circumstance, a medical note (or other applicable form of documentation, including Carleton's self-declaration form) should be provided within 5 days of the missed deadline in order to negotiate new deadlines. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require accommodation for any other reasons.

Academic Accessibility and Accommodations: This course is intended for all Carleton students, including those with mental, physical, or cognitive disabilities, illness, injuries, impairments, or any other condition that can affect one's equal access to education. If, at any point in the term, you find yourself not able to fully access the space, content, and experience of this course, you are encouraged to contact me by email, phone, or during office hours to discuss your specific needs.

For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

- **Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).
- **Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).
- **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, please request your accommodations for this course through the [Ventus Student Portal](#) at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation. Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a

case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the [University Academic Calendars](#). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam.

- **Survivors of Sexual Violence:** As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>
- **Accommodation for Student Activities:** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Additional Resources: There are a variety of ways to get help if you are having difficulties with any of the course material, or managing to meet the requirements of a number of courses at once. In addition to support I can offer you as the course instructor, there are a number of support services and resources available on campus, including: The Centre for Student Academic Support (<https://carleton.ca/csas/>) to help you in achieving academic success in various aspects of your university program; Carleton Writing Services (<https://carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>) to help you improve your writing skills; and The MacOdrum Library (www.library.carleton.ca) which offers library, research, learning, and IT support. Free counselling is available to students through Health and Counselling Services (<https://carleton.ca/health/counselling-services/>). See also the mental health resources listed above.