GEOG 1480: Geography of the United States and Canada

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week:*
OJT Hours/Week: *
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal areas 5 and 7. In this course, the student learns about the human and physical geography of the United States and Canada. Students gain understanding of how a geographic perspective helps to make sense of the continent's varied landscapes. Geology, vegetation, and climate are examined to gain an appreciation of how they shape the character of North America's physical regions. Additional study focuses on the cultural regions of the continent and how they have developed, including topical exploration of ethnicity, immigration, and population. Finally, the United States and Canada are broken down into smaller regions for more comprehensive consideration.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/22/2006 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Discover regional patterns of economic, political, and social interaction.
2. Explore significant regional urban and rural landscapes.
3. Identify major regions in the U.S. and Canada.
4. Interact with other learners in the course through on-line discussions.
5. Recognize cartographic symbology and interpret map data.
6. Research significant places in regional context.
7. Understand regional patterns of physical processes.
8. Understand the major concepts of regional geography.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will be able to differentiate regions of North America in those areas roughly west of 100º W Longitude.
2. The learner will be able to differentiate regions of North America in those areas roughly east of 100º W Longitude.
3. The learner will be able to identify and describe the major physical and human patterns found in the United States and Canada (North America) with particular emphasis being placed on human patterns of culture, race, and history.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States’ history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted