

GEOG 3100 – US & Canada: Economies, Cities, & Sustainability is an introduction to a geographic perspective on the United States and Canada, with an emphasis on the major urban regions that drive the economies of both countries. Our examination of the two countries will pull together many diverse elements that make the regions of North America what they have been, what they are, and what they are becoming: history, culture, economy, society, and other human factors, placed in the context of a dynamic and changing natural environment including factors such as climate and topography. The course opens with a discussion of the concept of “region”, challenging you to examine your own perceptions of what a “region” actually is, and how regions and their characteristics impact our life as individuals. From there, the remainder of the course divides into two distinct sections: 1. An overview of a series of foundational themes that tie North American regions together and defines the issues that impact urban and economic development on the continent; and 2. A survey of North America by region that explores the factors that form each region.