Course Instructor | Robert Way | Email: robert.way@queensu.ca
Office | D129 Mackintosh-Corry Hall
Contact Time | Two 1.5 hour lectures per week
Format | Lectures and in class activities
Class Assessment | In class assessments: (30%)
Assignment #1 [“delimiting The North”]: (15%)
Assignment #2 [topic form]: (6%)
Assignment #2 [research paper]: (24%)
Final exam: (25%)

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course aims to provide a deep dive into the characteristics, issues and evolution of Canada’s northern regions. By weaving together natural and social sciences, this course will provide a holistic understanding of how northern environments and people interact at regional-to-local spatial scales. Units will characterize the region’s physical geography, its northern and Indigenous people, northern infrastructure and resource development, and climate change impacts on northern environments. Although topics will focus primarily on the Canadian northern regions, there will be cross comparisons with other northern locales across the circumpolar north.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- To be able to characterize what defines The North in terms of its physical and social characteristics;
- To build a holistic understanding of the evolution of physical and social landscapes in northern Canada;
- To gain understanding of how environmental change impacts and is impacted by northern and Indigenous people;
- To be able to critically examine significant issues in impacting the physical environments and people in The North.

COURSE TOPICS

Canadian North, Arctic and Subarctic Environments, Climate Change, Indigenous People, Northern Infrastructure

COURSE READINGS

No specific textbook is associated with this course content. Reading materials including book chapters, journal articles and/or other relevant documents will be provided in class and online.