

HUNTER COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
POSTCARDS FROM AMERICA

I. STUDYING REGIONAL LANDSCAPES.

A. Preparation for Exams 2 and 3. For each region:

1. **Know its physical geography** (landforms, climate natural vegetation, soils, water resources).
2. **Identify its unique characteristics** (both natural and cultural) that allow you to recognize it and differentiate it from other regions.
3. **Explain the human imprint we see today.** How did it come about?
4. **Be able to discuss its sequence occupancy and economic development over time.** Link them to technological advances, political circumstances and population movements where appropriate. What caused it? Who settled the area first? Who lives there now? What happened?

B. Support material:

1. Read the assigned material in the Conzen text and look over the maps and explanations in the Historical Atlas.
2. You may want to supplement this material by paging through appropriate chapters or parts of chapters in any regional geography book that focuses on the US and Canada. This format meshes all the facets of a regional geographic survey.
3. You may also want to look over chapters in the “Recommended Books” section of the syllabus for insights and deeper explanations.
4. Consult road maps and atlases to view the distribution of features and the patterns created.

C. Format of Exams 2 and 3:

Similar to Exam 1, focusing on just the regions covered.

II. REQUIRED LANDSCAPE ROAD TRIP ASSIGNMENT

A. **Begin the required term project now!**

B. **Create a Postcards Course File** where you can dump photos, images, maps and information (including bibliographical citations) to be sorted out later.

C. **Select your road trip segment and decide on a route to get from the starting point to the destination.** Use *Google Maps* (www.google.com/maps) or some other trip routing program to set your itinerary.

D. **As we cover a region traversed by your route, locate places and find and illustrate examples of features encountered.** Save them in your file.