

# Postcards from America Required Landscape Road Trip

25% of your final grade

Create an analytic portfolio of geographic landscapes along an averaged 1,850 mi route across several regions of the US and Canada selected from the list of 15 routes.

Due by May 12, 2017

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## Required Project

**❖ SELECT ONE SEGMENT FROM THE 15 OPTIONS.**

**You select the route between the terminal cities.**

- Construct an analytical travelogue highlighting the physical and human geography along the route (landforms and climate, population, economic activity/land use, historical background, cultural uniqueness, things to see and do).
  - Short detours from the direct route are encouraged.


- Narrative: at least 7-pages of text plus a bibliography, maps and illustrations on separate pages.
- Minimum of two maps:
  - Show the location of the route within the US and/or Canada
  - Provide a detailed map of the route being discussed with all stops/points of reference marked on it.
  - Additional maps of specific locations along the route can only add to the grade.
  - Be sure to illustrate all highlighted areas within the travelogue with visual images.

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Required Project

**Select One Route from the list**

1. Billings, MT to Charlotte, NC
2. Charlotte, NC to Labrador City, NL
3. Labrador City, NL to Omaha, NE
4. Omaha, NE to Vancouver, BC
5. Vancouver, BC to Fairbanks, AK
6. Fairbanks, AK to Calgary, AB
7. Calgary, AB to Toronto, ON
8. Toronto, ON to El Paso, TX
9. El Paso, TX to Medford, OR
10. Medford, OR to Amarillo, TX
11. Amarillo, TX to Miami, FL
12. Miami, FL to North Bay, ON
13. North Bay, ON to Billings, MT
14. Brownsville, TX to San Diego, CA  
(hug the southern border)
15. Anchorage, AK to Churchill, MB  
(air route with stops)



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Required Project

**STEPS:**

- ✓ **Select a route that interests you.**
- ✓ **Create a “Postcards Course file” to store material** (narratives, images, maps, bibliographical citations).
- ✓ **Ask yourself the questions:**  
“What’s there?” Why does it look that way?”
- ✓ **Explain the ‘story behind the scenery’** - both physical and cultural.
- ✓ **Provide visuals to back your description and support your statements.**
- ✓ **Provide the required maps.**
- ✓ **Add source information:** footnote all facts and include a **bibliography**.

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## Postcards from America Extra Credit Options

due by May 23, 2017

Can add up to 5% (5 pts) to your final term average.

Percent is proportional based on the number of areas covered en route and the quality of description provided.

Choose one option:

1. Research paper on a pre-approved topic.
2. In-class presentation focusing on one region of the US or Canada (different from your required project).
3. Landscape Analysis: select one example from 5 different landscapes taken from a list.

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## SELECTING THEMES

- ❖ The 5 landscape features should be **varied** and represent **5 different areas** of the US & Canada: from the Arctic to Florida and Hawaii.
- ❖ Select a **mix** to provide diversity to your portfolio:
  - 1 natural landscape feature
  - 1 rural landscape feature
  - 1 feature from national park
  - 1 environmental impact feature
  - 1 feature from colonial/pioneer times
- ❖ **MOTIVATION:** Pretend you are traveling across the continent and taking pictures of what you see for friends and family and **need to explain** the pictures to them.

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## CONTENTS

The **contents** of each portfolio page must consist of the following minimum requirements:

- **Title**
- **One thumbnail locator map** showing the feature's location in North America
- **Minimum of one detailed readable map** of the landscape feature that shows local information
- **Minimum of two photographs or illustrations or diagrams or combo** of the feature in question
- **Minimum of a half-page written description** of the subject, its formation and its significance.
- **Stay on topic!!**
- **List all your sources of information** at the end of the description. No separate bibliography is needed.

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## PRESENTATION






❖ **The written description MUST be in your own words** (*no cut and paste*).

- The **verbal portion** is to be done in 10/11-point type and take up at least half the page.
- **Typing** is to be single-spaced and have standard 1-inch margins to either side.
- The **layout** may be either landscape or portrait mode.
- You may use **columns**.

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## SAMPLE LAYOUT

### Landscape 1 Title: The Narrows of NY Harbor

<p>Locator map.</p>	<p>Site and situation of The Narrows.</p>	<p>Location of the terminal moraine of the continental glacial.</p>	<p>Satellite view of The Narrows and the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge.</p>	<p>V-N Bridge crossing The Narrows from Ft Hamilton to Ft. Wadsworth.</p>
				

The Narrows of New York Harbor is a gap in the terminal moraine created at the end of the last Ice Age as the glacial lake located behind the moraine was breached. It marks the entrance to New York Harbor, separating Upper New York Bay from Lower New York Bay. Its deep channel allows the largest ships to enter the harbor. Located between the Long Island and Staten Island, The Narrows protects Upper New York Bay from wind and waves originating in the Atlantic Ocean. Fort Wadsworth (Staten Island) and Fort Hamilton (Brooklyn), located on high ground overlooking The Narrows, historically protected NY Harbor from naval

attack. The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, the world's longest suspension bridge when completed in 1964, spans The Narrows carrying traffic between Brooklyn and Staten Island. Its opening sparked the rapid growth of Staten Island's population.

Etc., etc., etc. for additional information to fill at least a half-page of description and analysis.


**Sources:** United States Geological Survey ([www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)); Yahoo Images ([www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)); Schuberth, C. *The Geology of New York City and Environs*, New York: Natural History Press, 1968.

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## FORMAT

**Include the following:**

- **Cover page.**
- **Table of contents** with the name and location of the landscape features (tagged 1-5) and the page number where the landscape feature description is found.
- **Map of North America** showing the location of each feature listed in the table of contents by using the corresponding tag number (1-5).

<p style="text-align: center; color: orange;"><b>COVER PAGE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A Sample of Landscapes found in the US and Canada</i></p> <p>Your Name</p> <p>GEOG 306/705 Postcards From America</p> <p>Date</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: orange;"><b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Landscape Aa, p.2.</li> <li>2. Landscape Bb, p. 3</li> <li>3. Landscape Cc, p. 5</li> <li>4. Landscape Dd, p. 7</li> <li>5. Landscape Ee, p. 9</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center; color: orange;"><b>MAP of NORTH AMERICA</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Locate <u>all</u> your landscapes on this map using numbers 1-5 for the required locations.</p>
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***QUESTIONS?***

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