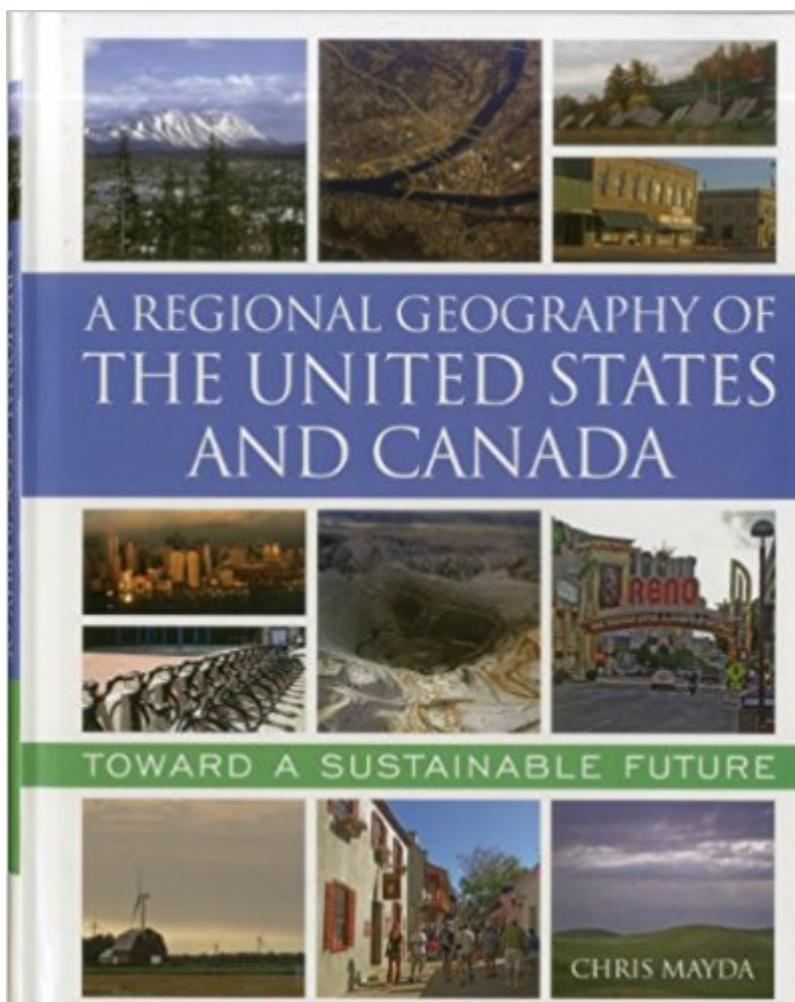


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# A Regional Geography Of The United States And Canada: Toward A Sustainable Future



## **Synopsis**

In this comprehensive new text, Chris Mayda offers an exciting alternative to conventional North American geographies. Throughout her thorough discussion of the physical and human geography of the United States and Canada, the author weaves in the key themes of environment and sustainability. Her inclusive and cohesive narrative highlights not only the diversity and richness of each region but the fundamental connections that link the continent. In the course of her research, Mayda traveled to every state and province in the United States and Canada, imbuing her writing and photographs with authenticity and immediacy. She traces the problems each region faces but also illuminates the positive actions that Americans and Canadians are taking to position their countries as healthy leaders in the world economy. Combining incisive analysis, rich description, human stories, and vibrant photographs, this text offers a complete and vivid portrait of the region from human, physical, and cultural perspectives. Designed expressly for ease of teaching and learning, the book features four-color photographs and maps throughout, chapter highlights, key term and place listings for each chapter, discussion questions, and a glossary, plus PowerPoint slides, and a sustainability blog on the book's website:

<http://everythingisconnectedblog.wordpress.com/>.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This engagingly written and comprehensive book has wide appeal beyond the discipline of geography. Mayda does an outstanding job linking geology, geography, economy, and culture to

give a sense of the importance of space and how it is configured for the United States and Canada. By relating the basic environmental differences to historic developments, she shows that physical structures and human collective agency are critical to understanding the past and influencing the future of place. It is a work I will recommend to friends and assign to students with the knowledge that good discussions and positive action will follow. (Cornelia Butler Flora, Iowa State University)Chris Mayda uses sustainability to provide an innovative approach to the United States and Canada. By exploring sustainability within the framework of regions, she operates at a scale students will comprehend and infuses each section with current environmental concerns and directions toward solutions. (Craig E. Colten, Louisiana State University)It's always refreshing to read a book with a new approach to old issues— one that can provide a contemporary student with a different lens to look at environments, landscapes, and peoples. Taking an ecological approach, Chris Mayda highlights the impacts people are having upon processes, landscapes, and regions and the sustainability of these actions over the long haul. Simply but cleverly written, this ambitious text will be valuable for geography majors as well as students across the social sciences. (John Everitt, Brandon University)Chris Mayda writes geography with a conscience. What this book demonstrates is not only that natural environments and human cultures vary in space—the conventional fare of geographers—but that our concerns for sustainability, environmental protection, healthy lives, and social justice are also intricately connected with the places we create on the landscape. Regional economies, societies, political systems and ways of thinking come under close scrutiny here for their threats to the pursuit of happiness in America today as well as their promise for better lives and broader liberties. (Warren Hofstra, Shenandoah University)Honestly, the first college coursebook that I have actually read cover to cover. I used to think I knew a fair amount about the different areas of the country, but each section of the text helped me take a step back. (Beth Kostecki, geography student)A Regional Geography of the United States and Canada has great depth, is substantive, focuses on appropriate geographical topics/issues, and the flavor of sustainability is appealing. (George Pomeroy, Shippensburg University)

Chris Mayda is professor of geography and sustainability at Eastern Michigan University.

I had the pleasure of meeting Professor Mayda in the Fall of 2013 at CSULB. She is just as passionate and intelligent in person as she is with her words. This has to be one of the best college text books I have ever purchased. From the very beginning of the text, the reader is given a healthy

education on the interconnectedness of ecosystems. Mayda does not hold back in explaining the serious environmental dangers Americans and Canadians face in the 21st century (CAFOs, Hypoxia, GMOs are just a few examples). Alongside the major environmental perspective, the reader will learn about the vast diversity of people who occupy North America. Alongside the environmental theme, the reader will also learn about regional cultural diversity, economics, and demographics for each region. The book goes into great detail about the current industries and new "tech" booming industries and how they are playing a negative role on ecosystems. Readers will also be fascinated to learn that the author simply does not report the current environmental problems, but provides healthy solutions, such as the Triple Bottom Line. This is more than just a text book, this is an eye opener to the current environment challenges we face as American and Canadian citizens (or humans of the earth). I'm very happy with this purchase and I recommend this book to anyone who is interested to know more about the USA's and Canada's geography.

I've been reading this text book and it is quite fascinating and finally telling the truth. Before I started this class of geography of the US & Canada I assumed it was going to contain subjects of locations, names, physical features, and "normal" geography items. But I discovered it was presenting the damage and change mankind has done to the earth and the aftermath to include global warming. I'm glad that someone is teaching geography in college on an environmental view; and thank you.

Personally, I prefer to teach the Geographies of US and Canada systematically, but if you must teach this section regionally this is a good thematic approach to doing so. Also, Geographies of US and Canada.

I bought this book new. In chapter 8 of this book, it is missing printed pages. The pages are there but blank, 8 pages total. I contacted the publisher but they blew me off, saying to deal with for an exchange or refund. With the exorbitant cost of textbooks today, they should provide quality control and stand behind their product. But they didn't. Poor quality control for this company and very poor customer service.

I originally rented this book as part of a college class, a few chapters in I was wishing I had purchased the book instead for my own library. Honestly, one of the only college coursebooks, I have read cover to cover. This book takes you on a tour of the United States and Canada, providing in-depth descriptions on the aspects of each region. The author writes from her own life experience of

not only traveling to each region but for many of the regions living in that particular area. She provides first hand experience of the current state of many of these regions. This book is also written in such a way that you really take a step back from your own life and think of how you can change your habits to make our world more sustainable. From the overpopulation of certain regions, to the overuse of water, to the effects of the boom and bust towns, this book will encourage you to take another look at your own actions. The author also includes ideas and potential solutions to help lead these regions into a more sustainable future. For anyone interested in learning more about the United States and Canada or learn more about a sustainable future, I would highly recommend this book.

This is a fantastic textbook. It's extensively researched, does justice to the best of geography's integrative tradition, and is superbly written. In piecing together the environmental problems of every part of the US and Canada, and briefly contextualizing each of them, Mayda draws a realistic portrait of the fix we have gotten ourselves in. These are problems we often know about but tend to think of as aberrations and isolated incidents. Her approach of culture is more muted but no less solid. In reading this text, I felt that she loved both the land and the people. In addition most of the photos are Mayda's and thus illustrate perfectly the points she makes.

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