

Minnesota State University Moorhead

GEOS 235: Geography of Minnesota and North Dakota

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Survey and analysis of the physical and cultural environments of Minnesota and North Dakota.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 12/28/2001 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Physical Geography of Minnesota and ND
 - a. Landscape history
 - b. Weather & Climate
 - c. Ecology
2. Regional Physical environments (from East to west)
 - a. Forests (deciduous and northern)
 - b. Tallgrass prairie
 - c. Wetlands
 - d. Lakes
 - e. MN Rivers and the Mississippi
 - f. Shortgrass prairie
 - g. Red River Valley
 - h. The Pembina and Turtle Mountains
 - i. Missouri escarpment and river valley
 - j. Badlands
3. Cultural Heritage and Settlement History
 - a. A new land: 1803
 - b. The Mississippi Valley
 - c. The Iron Range and Superior uplands
 - d. The wooded interior
 - e. The agricultural southern tier
 - f. The Red River Valley
 - g. Great plains and homesteading
 - h. Urban places
4. State Economic systems
 - a. Energy
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Agriculture
 - d. Mining
 - e. Manufacturing & Industry
5. The Dynamics of State political systems.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand how the basic concepts of Geography apply to our area.
2. Understand how and why current events affect MN and ND.
3. Understand how technology changes this region.
4. Understand why and how the state systems have changed and how this affects the citizens.
5. Understand the place of the region in the larger perspective.
6. Understand and map these state's varied economic and social activities.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted