

Name: _____

Socials 8

Mapping Conventions

When drawing maps in this course, you must remember the following requirements:

1. Page Border

- ✓ Draw a border around your map.
- ✓ Border should be a simple straight line **1 cm** in from the edge of the paper.
- ✓ You must use a **ruler**.
- ✓ If you find there is information in the way, you may draw your border right through it.

2. Map Title

- ✓ Your title must be in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS.
- ✓ Your title should be the **LARGEST LETTERING** on the map.
- ✓ The title should clearly indicate what the map is showing – eg.: CANADA: POLITICAL.
- ✓ Do not underline the title.
- ✓ Map titles usually appear at the top of the map, but if there is not enough room, you may place the title in any other appropriate space.

3. Map Labels

1. **Political Labels:** (*Human-made* features)

- ✓ Label horizontally.
- ✓ Do not underline.
- ✓ Label the names of continents, countries, provinces/states in ALL CAPITALS.
- ✓ Label the names of cities in Normal Case (i.e., first letter capitalized).
- ✓ Identify Capital Cities with a different symbol than other cities to indicate superiority.

2. **Physical Labels:** (*Natural* features)

- ✓ Labels to follow the feature, i.e. do not have to be horizontal.
- ✓ Ocean names must be written horizontally in ALL CAPITALS.
- ✓ Sea/lake/river/non-ocean body of water names should be in Normal Case.
- ✓ Outline ALL bodies of water in blue pencil-crayon.

4. Directional Indicator



- ✓ All maps indicate in which direction North is, so the reader can orient themselves.
- ✓ You may indicate the direction of North only, or include the other directions as well.
- ✓ Ideally, you should position your indicator on a meridian on longitude, but if these are not shown on the map, indicate North to the best of your ability. (Remember that North may not necessarily be straight up...)



5. Map Key or Legend

1. Used to explain what all the map's symbols mean, therefore, make sure that all symbols on the map are clearly labeled in the key.
2. Note: It is not necessary to include WATER in the key.



So, for each map we do in the course, you must have the following:

Item	Done?
RULED border 1 cm in from edge	
Logical title in CAPITAL LETTERS	
Political features labeled properly	
Physical features labeled properly	
Directional indicator that points North	
Map key explains ALL map symbols	
ALL bodies of water (including rivers) outlined in blue?	
ALL lettering is neat and readable?	