



# The Geography of Transport Systems

*By Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Claude Comtois, Brian Slack*

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Mobility is fundamental to economic and social activities, including commuting, manufacturing and supplying energy. Understanding how mobility is linked with geography is key, and the main focus of this important book.

Concerned with movements, infrastructures, institutions and the corporations supporting them, this key volume from Rodrigue, Comtois and Slack links spatial constraints and attributes with the origin, destination, extent, nature and purpose of movements. Divided into nine chapters, each covers methodologies linked with transport geography (such as accessibility, spatial interactions, graph theory and GIS), and the topics they address include:

- networks
- modes terminals
- international transportation
- urban transportation
- environmental impacts.

Ideal for an undergraduate audience, this book provides a comprehensive introduction with a broad overview of the concepts, methods and areas of application. Emphasis is placed on the development of didactic material that can be incorporated in lectures (such as PowerPoint slides, exercises, databases and GIS datasets). Although primarily developed for transport geography, the material can also be used in lectures in economic and urban geography, as well as transport planning and engineering.

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## **Bibliography**

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### Review

**'It provides a clear overview of the field and emphasizes spatial thinking with regard to transport topics, methods, and policies. Its topics and methods can easily be integrated with a variety of quantitative or qualitative methods and assignments, and will provide students with a broad but rigorous introduction to many of the topics and issues in the field of transport geography.'** - *Journal of Regional Science, Vol 47, No 3, 2007*

**'This book is a nice synthesis of concepts, methods, and conventional as well as contemporary issues related to transport geography... a comprehensive and valuable introduction to the field of transport geography, which we would recommend for use as a textbook for undergraduate transport students and non-transport professionals.'** - *Journal of Transport Geography 15 (2007)*

**'Rodrigue, Comtois and Slack have produced a valuable overview of the challenges facing contemporary transport systems suitable for practitioners in a range of related fields as well as a concise and comprehensive introduction to transport Geography for an undergraduate audience'** - *Julie Clark, University of Glasgow (2008)*

**'While written as a geography textbook, it is relevant and of interest to other disciplines as it explains the systems and their uses. Perhaps the most important fact is the oft-forgotten reality that transportation and the movement of goods is intermodal in nature, and while readers can dip in and out of relevant chapters, any analysis of these systems should be considered in their totality not by single mode (or sector).'**' – *Andrew Forbes, Sea Power Centre , Australia*

### About the Author

**Jean-Paul Rodrigue** is an Associate Professor of Geography in the Department of Economics and Geography at Hofstra University, USA.

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**Brian Slack** is Professor of Geography at Concordia University, Canada.

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