



# 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 such as commuting, manufacturing, or supplying energy. Each movement has an origin, a potential set of intermediate locations, a destination, and a nature which is linked with geographical attributes. Transport systems composed of infrastructures, modes and terminals are so embedded in the socio-economic life of individuals, institutions and corporations that they are often invisible to the consumer. This is paradoxical as the perceived invisibility of transportation is derived from its efficiency. Understanding how mobility is linked with geography is main the purpose of this book.

The third edition of *The Geography of Transport Systems* has been revised and updated to provide an overview of the spatial aspects of transportation. This text provides greater discussion of security, energy, green logistics, as well as new and updated case studies, a revised content structure, and new figures. Each chapter covers a specific conceptual dimension including networks, modes, terminals, freight transportation, urban transportation and environmental impacts. A final chapter contains core methodologies linked with transport geography such as accessibility, spatial interactions, graph theory and Geographic Information Systems for transportation (GIS-T).

This book provides a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the field, with a broad overview of its concepts, methods, and areas of application. The accompanying website for this text contains a useful additional material, including digital maps, PowerPoint slides, databases, and links to further reading and websites. The website can be accessed at: <http://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans> This text is an essential resource for undergraduates studying transport geography, as well as those interest in economic and urban geography, transport planning and engineering.



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### **Review**

'I would strongly recommend this book to anyone who has doubts about the domains of transport geography and/or transport geographers' contributions to the contemporary world. This book covers essential concepts and methods in transport geography. Its breadth is truly amazing.' Professor Becky P.Y. Loo, *The University of Hong Kong*

'This is a timely update of a book that outlines key concepts from transport geography in a detailed and rigorous manner. It offers an invaluable resource for undergraduate courses and an excellent reference book for anybody interested in transport geography.' Dr Tim Schwanen, *University of Oxford, UK*

'*The Geography of Transport Systems* provides an up-to-date and thorough text for introductory courses in Transportation Geography. With both conceptual and methodological elements, this book provides students with qualitative and quantitative tools for approaching analyses of transport systems. Whether their interests are economic, social, or environmental, students will find material in this accessible text to meet their needs.' Kevin Curtin, *George Mason University, USA*

'This is a well-structured textbook for transportation geography. It effectively covers almost all geographical aspects of transportation systems. For each chapter, the concept-method organization is very useful for students to understand the theoretical aspects of transportation and how these theories can be applied in practice. The contents covered in this book are highly relevant to current research and practice.' Dr. Changshan Wu, *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA*

### **About the Author**

**Jean-Paul Rodrigue** is Professor in the Department of Geography and Global Studies at Hofstra University, New York. His research interests primarily cover issues related to freight transportation, logistics and globalization, particularly over North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Pacific Asia.

**Claude Comtois** is Professor of Geography at the University of Montreal, Canada, and is affiliated with the Research Centre on Enterprise Networks, Logistics and Transportation at the same institution.

**Brian Slack** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Concordia University, Montreal, Canada.

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