

NAME: _____

**Hunter College of the City University of New York
Department of Geography
Geography of New York State
Exercise 2 – REQUIRED**

Political Map of New York State Exercise

Due no later than September 6, 2012; late submission will be penalized.

INTRODUCTION: *In order to study any area on earth we need to be able to place it within its larger region and be aware of the interrelationship of its parts to the whole.*
PURPOSE: *This exercise will introduce you to NYS's location by identifying its boundaries- land and water, the political entities that border it, and acquainting you with the political subdivision state's 62 counties.*

ASSIGNMENT: This exercise has FOUR PARTS.

Go to the **Geography of NYS Course Page** via the Dept. of Geography's home page. From the **HANDOUTS** section, **print** a NYS outline map with county boundaries. You can also photocopy or scan the outline map in the syllabus.

PART I. On the outline map, do the following:

1. **Add the names** of all adjacent US states and Canadian provinces. **Locate their borders** by drawing in a small section of their boundaries where they touch NYS.

Canada	Vermont	Massachusetts
Quebec Prov.	New Jersey	Connecticut
Ontario Prov.	Pennsylvania	Rhode Island

2. **Mark in blue** and **label** the boundaries from section 1 that are **found in water**. Be sure to look closely at the area around New York City when doing this part of the exercise. *Remember to mark only the boundary portion of the feature.*

St. Lawrence River	Lake Champlain	Lake Ontario	Hudson River
Niagara River	Lake Erie	Delaware River	Raritan Bay
Long Island Sound	Kill Van Kull	Atlantic Ocean	Arthur Kill

PART II. Locate your three assigned counties. **Yellow-highlight and label** them on the NYS outline map.

PART III. Do the following on the chart below:

1. List the **three counties** assigned to you.
2. At http://www.dos.ny.gov/kids_room/508/counties2.html find the **toponymy** (study of the origin of place names) of each county name.
3. Then go to the "I Love NY" web site (<http://www.iloveny.com/Cities-And-Towns.aspx>) and locate the **tourist region** in which each county is located.

1 - COUNTY	2 - TOPONYMY	3 - REGION
> _____	_____	_____
> _____	_____	_____
> _____	_____	_____

Part IV. To acquaint yourself with the names and locations of all 62 counties of NYS, including the five counties within New York City (*note that three of them have different borough names, e.g. Kings County is the Borough of Brooklyn*), answer the questions below by filling in the names of the appropriate counties in each sentence. Since the purpose here is to introduce you to county names, try not to repeat the names of the counties.

1. The three largest counties in area appear to be _____, _____, and _____.
2. The smallest county in area appears to be _____.
3. Three elongated counties are _____, _____, and _____.
4. A county that is an island is _____.
5. A county with seven bordering counties is _____.
6. A stair-step-shaped county is _____.
7. A triangular-shaped county is _____.
8. A near perfect rectangular-shaped county is _____.
9. The most irregularly shaped county appears to be _____.
10. The counties sharing a land or river boundary with Canada are _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.
11. Three counties with the name of a U.S. president after whom those counties were named (Clinton does not count!) are _____, _____, and _____.
12. Two counties with the name of a famous American who was **not** a president are _____ and _____.
13. Four counties whose names are the same as that of a **U.S. state** are _____, _____, _____, and _____.
14. Three counties touching Connecticut are _____, _____, and _____.
15. The two colors represented by county names are _____ and _____.
16. Two counties with obvious Native American names are _____ and _____.
17. The four counties found on Long Island are _____, _____, _____, and _____.
18. The five counties of New York City are _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.
19. Names of five counties **not used** to fill in any of the blanks above are _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.

REMEMBER TO ATTACH THE OUTLINE MAP FOR PARTS I and II TO THIS SHEET.