

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

History 9200

**Selected Topics in the Social, Economic and Cultural
History of Ontario**
2010-2011

Roger Hall

SSC4426

History 9200 is the graduate seminar in Ontario's history. The University of Western Ontario has long been associated with the study of the provincial past and is fortunate in having among its own repositories extensive and varied resources for the serious academic study of that past. Additionally, UWO is well situated for easy access to other repositories and archives such as the provincial archives in Toronto and Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa. History 9200 is a research seminar with the goals of exposing students to the full range of these rich resources, discussing at length their nature and utility, developing and focussing upon individual research topics in Ontario's past and student presentation of those topics both in class sessions and finally in a refined version at year's end as a formal, lengthy scholarly paper. As well, during the course of the year, numerous other more minor assignments will be made, the results of which will be presented both orally in class and in written form. More details are given in the outline below. There will be some flexibility according to class enrolment.

Students entering the course should be aware that some general knowledge of Canadian history is essential. A rudimentary understanding of Ontario history, while helpful, is not essential. There are no prescribed texts for the course, although much of our time will be taken up with the discussion of books and bibliographies. Students should expect to spend a great deal of their time independently in libraries and archives working with primary and secondary sources, although group visits to repositories make up an important portion of the first part of the course. Students will be expected to prepare thoroughly for each class meeting.

Class members will be evaluated in terms of both their written and oral work. Marks will be assigned according to the following scale:

1. First written assignment (review)—10 per cent.
2. Bibliographic assignment—25 per cent.
3. Second written assignment (review)—15 per cent.
4. Class presentation of topic and general class participation--20 per cent.
5. Final paper.—30 per cent.

There will be no interim or final examinations. The class is generally composed of a productive

mix of both Masters and Doctoral candidates.

Tentative Schedule 2010-2011
Term I

16 September–Introduction and organization.

Discussion of individual interests and potential topics. Assignment of class debate topic: “The case for renaming Wellington Street in Ottawa as Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard–pro and con.” Assignments of individual reviews.

23 September–Lecture: “A Short, Sweet History of Ontario”.

30 September–Class debate as above.

Progress reports on assignments and potential research topics.

7 October–Building an annotated bibliography for Ontario (and going beyond the book).
Assignments of teams in:

I. Politics

II Business and Economics

III Social

IV Cultural and Intellectual

14 October–First review assignment due

21 October–D. B. Weldon Rare Books Collection visit (John Lutman) and discussion of topics with librarian archivist.

28 October–J.J. Talman Archives and Research Centre visit and discussion.

4 November–Politics bibliography, presentation and class discussion

11 November–Business and Economics bibliography, presentation and class discussion

18 November–Social history presentation and class discussion

25 November–Cultural and Intellectual history presentation and class discussion

-

2 December–Visit to new Archives of Ontario, York University, Toronto or Visit to London Life Archives (Don Spanner). Assignment of second review. Assignment of dates and times for class presentations in upcoming term.

Term II

2011, 6 January–Final Organization for New Term. Second review due.

13 January–Lecture “Ontario’s Visual History”

20 January–Individual student presentations begin, discussions and evaluations

27 January–same

-3 February–same

10 February–same

17 February–same

24 February–READING WEEK

3 March–Student presentations continue

10 March–same

17 March–same

24 March–same

31 March–same

7 April–Final Class: Retrospect and Prospect: Towards a New History for Ontario?

.....

