

The University of Western Ontario
Department of History
2009 - 2010

History 9202F - Canada and the First World War

Fall term, Monday 8:30 - 10:30AM
SSC 4317

Jonathan F. Vance
SSC-4322
661-2111 ext. 84974
email: jvance@uwo.ca

The course will consider the Canadian experience during and after the First World War, from August 1914 to the 1930s, using a variety of perspectives from social, cultural, political, intellectual, and military history. This is a research seminar and in written work, emphasis will be placed upon an ability to write clearly and effectively, and upon a willingness to think broadly about the impact of the First World War on Canadian society.

There is no required text for the course. All readings are available on the course website on WebCT, in the periodicals section of the D.B.Weldon Library, or on two-hour reserve in the D.B.Weldon Library. **Students are expected to have a reading knowledge of French.**

ASSIGNMENTS:

Seminar participation	20%
Book review	10%
Major research essay	70%

Seminar Participation

The success of the seminar depends on the willingness of students to keep up with the readings on a weekly basis and to take part fully in the discussion. Participation will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the term.

Book Review

Each member of the seminar will write a short (400-500 words) review of a book from the attached list, worth 10% of the final grade, to be submitted on 19 October. These reviews will then be published in the Book Review Supplement to the journal *Canadian Military History*. For that reason, each book may be reviewed by only one person. A sign-up sheet is now posted on my office door – you should sign up early to secure the book of your choice.

Major research essay

Students will write a major research paper (based on primary materials) on a topic of their choice, to be arrived at in consultation with the instructor. In selecting an essay topic, you should be as imaginative and innovative as possible while bearing in mind the availability of relevant primary sources and the soundness of the topic in a theoretical sense. The final draft of the paper should be 20-25 pages in length and must be presented in proper scholarly format. The due date will be 14 December.

History 9202 – 2009-2010

Please note the University Senate's statement on plagiarism: "Students must write their own essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever a student takes an idea or a passage of a text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see the Scholastic Academic Offence Policy in the University's academic calendar). The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for this purpose."

Seminar schedule:

14 September - Introduction

21 September - August 1914

Ian Miller, *Our Glory and Our Grief: Torontonians and the Great War* (2002): ch. 1

L.M. Montgomery, *Rilla of Ingleside* (1920): ch. 3 and 4

Robert Rutherford, "Canada's August Festival: Communitas, Liminality, and Social Memory," *Canadian Historical Review* 77 (1996)

28 September - Recruitment

Olivar Asselin, *Pourquoi je m'enrole* (1916)

R. Craig Brown and Donald Loveridge, "Unrequited Faith: Recruiting the CEF, 1914-1918," *Revue internationale d'histoire militaire* 51 (1982)

Nikolas Gardner, "The Great War and Waterloo County: The Travails of the 118th Overseas Battalion," *Ontario History* 89 (1997)

Paul Maroney, "'The Great Adventure': The Context and Ideology of Recruiting in Ontario," *Canadian Historical Review* 77 (1996)

C.A. Sharpe, "Enlistment in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1918: A Regional Analysis," *Journal of Canadian Studies* 18 (1983-84)

5 October - Managing Dissent

Henri Bourassa, *Hier, Aujourd'hui, Demain: Problèmes nationaux* (1916): 67-92

W. Entz, "The Suppression of the German Language Press in September 1918," *Canadian Ethnic Studies* 8 (1976)

Greg Kealey, "State Repression of Labour and the Left in Canada, 1914-1920," *Canadian Historical Review* 73 (1992)

Ferdinand Roy, *L'Appel aux armes et la réponse canadienne-française* (1917): 5-57

12 October - Thanksgiving - no class

19 October - War as a Gendered Experience ** book review due**

Susan Mann, ed., *The War Diary of Clare Gass* (2000), introduction

Susan Mann, *Margaret Macdonald: Imperial Daughter* (2005), appendix

History 9202 – 2009-2010

Linda J. Quiney, “‘Bravely and Loyal They Answered the Call’: St. John Ambulance, the Red Cross, and the Patriotic Service of Canadian Women during the Great War,” *History of Intellectual Culture* 5 (2005)

Joan Sangster, “Mobilizing Women for War,” in David MacKenzie, ed., *Canada and the First World War: Essays in Honour of Robert Craig Brown* (2005): 157-193

26 October - Discipline: The Court-Martial of Private George West Arnold

Cathryn Corns and John Hughes-Wilson, *Blindfold and Alone: British Military Executions in the Great War* (2001): ch. 8

Desmond Morton, “The Supreme Penalty: Canadian Deaths by Firing Squad in the First World War,” *Queen’s Quarterly* 79 (1972)

Desmond Morton, *When Your Number’s Up: The Canadian Soldier in the First World War* (1993): ch.10

2 November - TEWT

9 November - Conscription and the 1917 Election

Henri Bourassa, *La Conscription* (1917): 28-34

Daniel Byers, “The Conscription Election of 1917 and its Aftermath in Orillia, Ontario,” *Ontario History* 83 (1991)

Robert Comeau, “L’opposition à la conscription au Québec,” in Roch Legault and Jean Lamarre, eds, *La Première Guerre mondiale et le Canada* (1999): 91-109

J.L. Granatstein, “Conscription in the Great War,” in David MacKenzie, ed., *Canada and the First World War: Essays in Honour of Robert Craig Brown* (2005): 62-75

Ronald Haycock, “The 1917 Federal Election in Victoria-Haliburton: A Case Study,” *Ontario History* 67 (1975)

W.H. Heick, “‘If We Lose the War, Nothing Else Matters’: The 1917 Federal Election in North Waterloo,” *Ontario History* 72 (1980)

Desmond Morton, “Polling the Soldier Vote: The Overseas Campaign in the Canadian General Election of 1917,” *Journal of Canadian Studies* 31 (1975)

A.M. Willms, “Conscription 1917: A Brief for the Defence,” *Canadian Historical Review* 37 (1956)

16 November - The Veteran Experience

Kent Fedorowich, *Unfit for Heroes: Reconstruction and Soldier Settlement in the Empire Between the Wars* (1995): ch. 4

Desmond Morton and Glenn Wright, “The Bonus Campaign, 1919-21: Veterans and the Campaign for Re-establishment,” *Canadian Historical Review* 64 (1983)

J.F. Vance, *Death So Noble: Memory, Meaning and the First World War* (1997): ch. 4

J.F. Vance, “‘Today they were alive again’: The Canadian Corps Reunion of 1934,” *Ontario History* 87 (1995)

History 9202 – 2009-2010

23 November - Commemoration

Marilyn Baker, "To Honor and Remember: Remembrances of the Great War. The Next-of-Kin Monument in Winnipeg," *Manitoba History* 2 (1981)

Jacqueline Hucker, "'After the Agony in Stony Places': The Meaning and Significance of the Vimy Monument," in Geoffrey Hayes, Andrew Iarocci, and Mike Bechthold, eds., *Vimy Ridge: A Canadian Reassessment* (2007): 279-90

Alan Young, "'We throw the torch': Canadian Memorials of the Great War and the Myth of Heroic Sacrifice," *Journal of Canadian Studies* 24 (1989-90)

J.F. Vance, "Remembering Armageddon," in David MacKenzie, ed., *Canada and the First World War: Essays in Honour of Robert Craig Brown* (2005): 409-433

Jim Zucchero, "The Canadian National War Memorial: Metaphor for the Birth of a Nation," in D.M.R. Bentley, ed., *Mnemographia Canadensis: Essays on Memory, Community, and Environment in Canada*, vol. 2 (1999)

30 November - War Literature

Charles Yale Harrison, *Generals Die in Bed* (1930)
<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks05/0500061h.html>

Mary Swan, *The Deep* (2002)

J.F. Vance, "The Soldier as Novelist: Literature, History and the Great War," *Canadian Literature: A Quarterly of Criticism and Review* 179 (2003)

7 December - conclusion

14 December ** major research paper due **

Books for Review Essay

Y.A. Bennett, ed., *Kiss the kids for dad, don't forget to write: The Wartime Letters of George Timmins, 1916-1918* (2009)

Marcelle Cinq-Mars, *L'Écho du front: Journaux de tranchées, 1915-1919* (2008)

Tim Cook, *At the Sharp End: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917-1918* (2007)

Tim Cook, *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917-1918* (2008)

Claude de Moissac, *Lettres des tranchées* (2007)

Nathan Greenfield, *Baptism of Fire: The Second Battle of Ypres and the Forging of Canada, April 1915* (2007)

Andrew Iarocci, *Shoestring Soldiers: The 1st Canadian Division at War, 1914-1915* (2008)

Craig L. Mantle, *The Apathetic and the Defiant: Case Studies of Canadian Mutiny and Disobedience, 1812-1919* (2007)

G.W.L. Nicholson, *The Fighting Newfoundlander* (2006)

Jack O'Brien, *Into the Jaws of Death: The 28th Northwest at the Somme, Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele* (2008)

History 9202 – 2009-2010

Amy J. Shaw, *Crisis of Conscience: Conscientious Objection in Canada during the First World War* (2009)

Thomas-Louis Tremblay, *Journal de guerre, 1915-1918* (2006)

Mark Zuehlke, *Brave Battalion: The Remarkable Saga of the 16th Battalion (Canadian Scottish) in the First World War* (2008)