

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
SUMMER EVENING 2017

## HISTORY 3813E: PUBLIC HISTORY

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30pm – 8:30pm  
UCC 54A



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**Instructor:** Professor Michael Dove  
**Phone:** 519 661-2111, ext. 84996  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30pm – 9:30pm (during summer term)

**Office:** Lawson Hall 1207  
**Email:** mdove2@uwo.ca

### **NOTE:**

**THE COMPLETE VERSION OF THE SYLLABUS WILL BE POSTED ON THE OWL COURSE WEBSITE PRIOR TO THE START OF CLASSES IN MAY.**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an overview of *public history*- applied history, or the many and diverse ways in which history is put to work in the world. The theory and practice of public history will be examined through a variety of sources and media, including historical novels, websites, apps, television, film, exhibits, artifacts, graphic novels, computer games, guest speakers, and physical sites.

Students will be acquainted with the wide range of history-related professional opportunities available outside of academia, namely: archives and records management, film and documentary production, museums, parks, historic sites, historic preservation, heritage tourism, editorial services, digital public history, oral history, genealogy, and public policy research and consulting. Students will meet practitioners in the field and visit several public history-related sites.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the conclusion of this course, students should have:

- a sense of the origin, growth, and theory of public history;
- an understanding of the primary avenues for practicing public history;
- an awareness of the main issues and challenges faced by public historians;
- a familiarity with the variety of tools used by public historians;
- first-hand experience working with material culture objects;
- an ability to examine and critically assess various forms of historical media;
- the capability of delivering a verbal presentation of their work to their peers;
- the experience of working in small groups on a public history project;
- made contacts with public history professionals and institutions;
- experienced several local public history-related sites;
- a clearer sense of how to prepare their applications for graduate or professional school and the diversity of career options open to them

## PREREQUISITE(S)

1.0 course in History at the 2200 level or above.

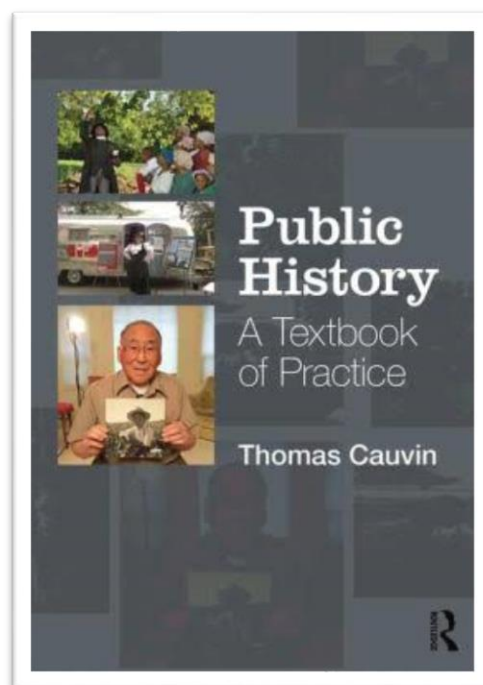
## REQUIRED TEXTS

Thomas Cauvin, *Public History: A Textbook of Practice* (Taylor & Francis, 2016).

There is just one textbook for this course. It is available at the Western Book Store and on 2-HR reserve at DB Weldon Library. Other readings will be assigned, all of which will be available online or via the course website (OWL Sakai) as indicated in the Class Schedule below.

## COURSE EVALUATION

<b>Exhibit Review</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>Class Participation</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Exam</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>Small Group Project</b>	<b>40%</b>



## **COURSE WEBSITE**

Students should consult the course website through OWL (powered by Sakai) at: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal> for all course information, including the full syllabus, discussion questions, assignment instructions, announcements, a calendar of events, and course grades.

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Because collaborative effort and oral communication are key elements to practicing public history, classes will often take the form of a combined lecture-seminar format.

**Participation** in discussions is essential to having a quality learning experience.

Students are expected to regularly contribute informed and thoughtful opinions on assigned readings. To help better prepare students for each discussion, several questions relating to the readings will be posted on the course website. Students are expected to be attentive, make comments, and ask questions, especially during site visits and group presentations. Students are also invited to share their personal stories and news of any recent events that relate to a particular week's topic. Participation is weighted at **20%** of the final grade.

## **EXHIBIT REVIEW**

Students are asked to write a 4-5 page exhibit review of "Airwaves: London's Radio and TV," being staged at *Museum London* beginning May 20<sup>th</sup>. Our class scheduled for Thursday, 25 May will be devoted to viewing this exhibit. More information about this assignment, including questions and short readings to assist with the writing of it, will be provided in class and via the course website.

All submissions should be made to Drop Box via the OWL course website by the end of the day on **Thursday, 08 June 2017**. This will involve submitting it through the Turnitin for plagiarism checking. The Faculty of Social Science's policy statement on plagiarism and the use of plagiarism detection software is attached to this syllabus. Details about the Turnitin process will appear on the course website. The exhibit review is weighted at **20%** of the final grade.

## **EXAM**

Students will write a 2-hour in-class exam on **Thursday, 29 June 2017**. The exam will cover all class and textbook material to that date. More information regarding the structure of the exam will be provided in class. The exam is weighted at **20%** of the final grade.

## **SMALL GROUP PROJECT**

Experiential learning and group work are essential components in one's training to becoming a public historian. These are also factors particularly valued by employers and admissions committees for graduate and professional programs. The Small Group Project is designed to provide students with such prized skills and experiences. This summer, groups of between three to four members will produce a 10-12 page proposal for a local historical walking tour. Several classes and resources will help prepare groups for this project, including an initial discussion of the project and the nature of group-work scheduled for Thursday, 08 June; sessions on local history and heritage conservation; as well as actual walking tours scheduled for Thursday, 15 June and Thursday, 22 June. Students are encouraged to consult with individuals and/or institutions whose work is particularly relevant to group proposals. More information about the small group project will be posted on the course website.

A brief summary of each group's intended proposal will be due by the end of the day on **Tuesday, 27 June**. Groups will deliver their walking tour during classes scheduled for the **closing weeks of the term in July (ie. 13<sup>th</sup>; 18<sup>th</sup>; 20<sup>th</sup>; and 25<sup>th</sup> if necessary)**. The class scheduled for 11 July will be set aside for students to work in their groups. The final proposal is due by the end of the day on **Thursday, 27 July 2017**. The entire project is weighted at **40%** of the final grade (the summary of the intended proposal is valued at 5%, the presentation is valued at 15%, and the final proposal is valued at 20%). Each student in the group will receive the same grade.

## **POLICY ON EXTENSIONS, LATE PAPERS, & EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Extensions on written assignments and the small group project and exemptions from class participation will only be granted for **medical reasons or family emergencies**. For the former, students must complete a Western Student Medical Certificate and arrange a meeting with an academic counselor, who will process the request and decide whether or not it is acceptable. Family emergencies must also be documented and brought to the attention of a counselor. If the counselor deems the request to be acceptable, then the instructor will be notified that an extension be agreed upon by the student and the instructor. As per university policy, only the counselor (ie. Dean's Office) can determine whether or not accommodation should be granted. Please refer to the following website for more information about Western's Policy on Medical Illness: <http://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> Barring the above conditions, late assignments and late small group projects will be penalized 2% each day thereafter, including weekends.

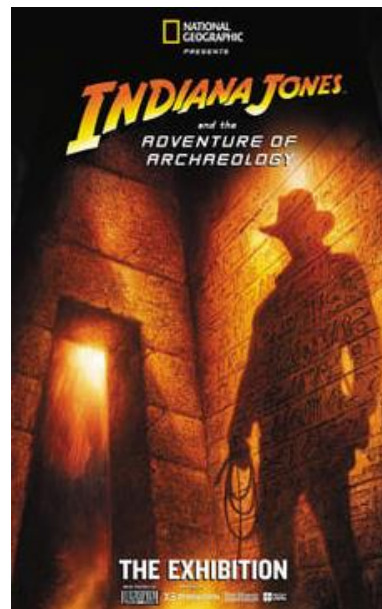
## CLASS SCHEDULE

Summer 2017

09 May

Welcome!

Reading: None



11 May

Defining “Public History” and “the public”: What is Public History? What do Public Historians do? Who is our audience? How will this course prepare me for graduate or professional study and/or a career?

Reading: TBA

16 May

Understanding the Past through Archives, Museums & Historic Sites I

Reading: TBA



18 May

**SITE VISIT:  
BANTING HOUSE  
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE!**

**Reading:**

Banting House NHSC:

<http://bantinghousesnhsc.wordpress.com/>



23 May

Understanding the Past through Archives, Museums & Historic Sites II

**Reading: TBA**



25 May

**SITE VISIT:  
MUSEUM LONDON!  
("AIRWAVES" EXHIBIT)**

**Reading: TBA**

30 May

**SITE VISIT:  
WESTERN MEDICAL ARTIFACT  
COLLECTION, LAWSON HALL!  
(MATERIAL CULTURE WORKSHOP:  
'HOW TO READ AN ARTIFACT')**

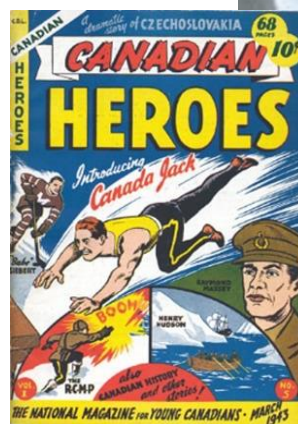
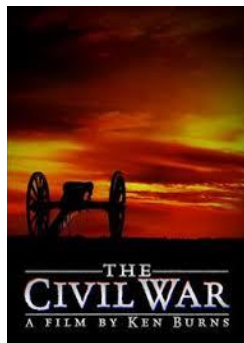
**Reading: TBA**



**01 June**

**Fact & Fiction in Popular History:  
Comics, Games, Novels and Websites**

**Reading: TBA**



**06 June**

**The Real/Reel Past:  
Hollywood, Television, Documentary  
& the Public Historian**

**Reading: TBA**

**08 June**

**Small Group Project: Building an Historical Walking Tour Business!**

**Due: Exhibit Review!**

**13 June**

**People's Stories:  
Family, Oral &  
Community History**

**Reading: TBA**



15 June

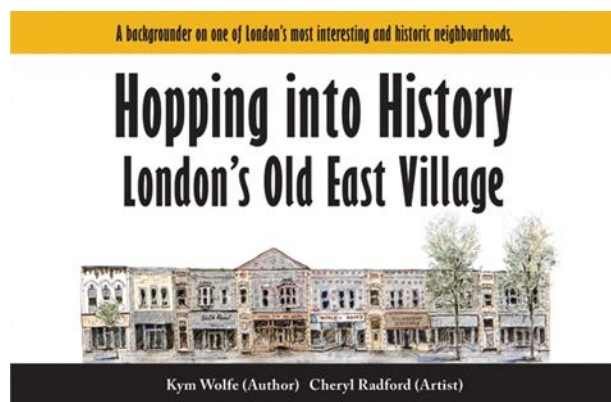
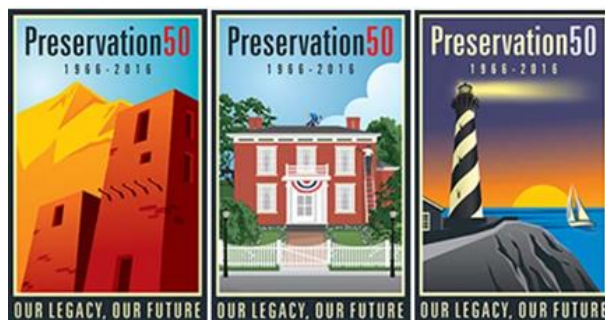
**SITE VISIT: LONDON, ONTARIO HERITAGE WALK!**

Reading: TBA

20 June

Heritage Conservation/ Preservation & Cultural Resource Management

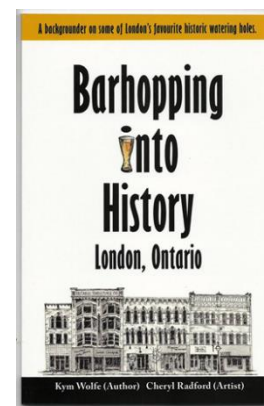
Reading: TBA



22 June

**SITE VISIT:  
WALKING TOURS  
WITH KYM WOLFE!**

Reading: TBA

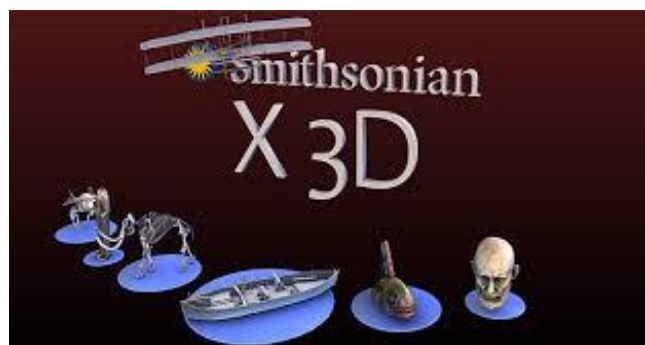


27 June

Digital "Public" History

Due: Small Group Project Proposal!

Reading: TBA



29 June

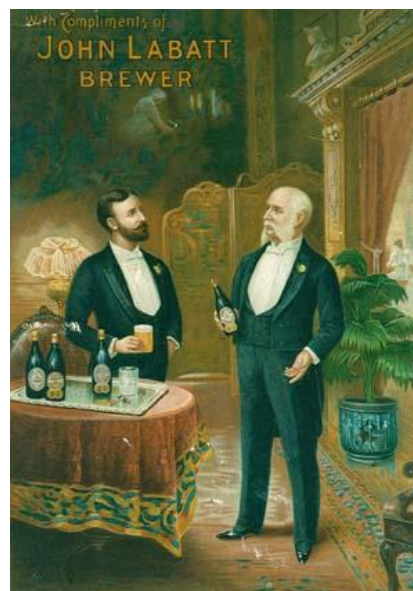
**EXAM!**  
(Written in-class during class time)



04 July

The Business of History:  
Corporate Uses of the Past &  
Heritage Tourism

Reading: TBA



06 July

**SITE VISIT:**  
**MUSEUM OF ONTARIO**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY (MOA)!**

11 July

Small Group Meetings

13 July

Small Group Presentations!

18 July

Small Group Presentations!

20 July

Small Group Presentations!

25 July

Small Group Presentations (if necessary)!

Wrap-Up!

27 July – **NO CLASS!**

Due: Small Group Project!



## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### **Prerequisites and Antirequisites:**

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

### **Academic Offences:**

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage 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 offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers:

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

**Medical Issues:**

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

[https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

**SUPPORT SERVICES:**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

*Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.*

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact: **Rebecca Dashford**, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962, or [rdashfo@uwo.ca](mailto:rdashfo@uwo.ca)