The course will consider the Canadian experience during and after the First World War, 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 war on Canada.

There is no required text for the course. All readings are available on the course website, in the periodicals section of Weldon Library, or on two-hour reserve in Weldon Library.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Seminar participation 20%
Document analysis 20%
Major research essay 60%

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.

Document Analysis
You will be given an original document from the First World War to research and analyze. You should approach it as an exercise in historical detection – how much can the document reveal about the time, and about the people and events to which it refers? Your analysis should be at least eight pages in length and include a one-page summary (which will be graded on the quality and clarity of the writing), the detailed analysis (which will be graded on the completeness of the research – it need not be presented in prose paragraphs, but may be presented in point form or in bulleted sections), and a bibliography. A sample document and analysis can be found on the course website. The analysis is due on 29 October.

Major research essay
Students will write a major research paper (based largely 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 imaginative and innovative while bearing in mind the availability of relevant primary sources and the soundness of the topic in a theoretical sense. The paper should be 20-25 pages in length and must be presented in proper scholarly format. The due date will be 10 December. As part of this assignment, you should submit a brief essay proposal (on 8 October) consisting of a series of research questions, a list of primary sources, and a sample bibliography.
*** Note: Late assignments will be subject to a deduction of two marks per day. Assignments submitted more than seven days after the due date will not be graded.

Please note the University Senate’s statement on plagiarism: “Scholastic offenses are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offense, at the following website:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

Seminar schedule:

10 September - Introduction

17 September - August 1914
L.M. Montgomery, *Rilla of Ingleside* (1920): ch. 3 and 4
James M. Pitsula, *For All We Have and Are: Regina and the Experience of the Great War* (2008): ch. 1

24 September - Recruitment
Olivar Asselin, *Pourquoi je m’enrolle* (1916)

1 October - Managing Dissent


8 October - Document analysis workshop / ** research paper proposal due **

15 October - War as a Gendered Experience
Susan Mann, *Margaret Macdonald: Imperial Daughter* (2005), appendix
Lynn Kennedy, “‘Twas You, Mother, Made Me a Man’: The Motherhood Motif in the Poetry of the First World War,” in Glassford and Shaw, eds., *A Sisterhood of Suffering and Service*

22 October - Discipline: The Court-Martial of Private George West Arnold
Desmond Morton, “The Supreme Penalty: Canadian Deaths by Firing Squad in the First World War,” *Queen’s Quarterly* 79 (1972)

29 October - TEWT **document analysis due**

5 November - Conscription and the 1917 Election
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)

12 November - The Veteran Experience
Peter Neary, “‘Without the stigma of pauperism’: Canadian Veterans in the 1930s,” *British Journal of Canadian Studies* 22 (2009)
J.F. Vance, “‘Today they were alive again’: The Canadian Corps Reunion of 1934,” *Ontario History* 87 (1995)

19 November - Commemoration
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)

26 November - War Literature
Charles Yale Harrison, *Generals Die in Bed* (1930)

3 December - conclusion

10 December **major research paper due**