

HISTORY 2201E

Canada's Past

A Critical History

Fall/Winter 2024-25

lectures Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:30-4:20pm
plus 1-hour tutorial each week, location TBA

Instructors: Prof. Alan MacEachern Prof. Robert Wardhaugh
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This is a summer 2024 **DRAFT** syllabus.
Please see the course site on OWL Brightspace for the final version.



from Benjamin West, *The Death of General Wolfe*, 1770 & Kent Monkman, *The Scream*, 2017

Course Description:

This course surveys the history of this place now called Canada, from the last ice age to today, with an emphasis on Indigenous peoples, colonialism, and imperialism; the history of warfare and international relations; immigration, industrialization, and state formation; and the diverse ways that gender, race, and class have shaped the lives of Canadians.

Antirequisite(s):

History 1201E, History 2203E, History 2204F/G, History 2205E, History 2710F/G.

Course Syllabus:

Students will write one annotated bibliography, one primary source-based assignment, one major essay, and two exams. Students will also discuss readings and lectures in tutorials.

Learning outcomes:

By the course's completion, students will be able to

- identify, investigate, and discuss key themes and developments in the history of Canada,
- relate contemporary issues in Canadian life to their historical development,
- interpret and evaluate primary source historical documents, exploring their factual basis, assumptions, biases, and rhetoric,
- analyze and assess secondary sources, and
- improve their skills in communicating ideas and arguments through class discussions and written assignments.

Course Materials:

The textbooks – Wardhaugh and MacEachern, *Origins: Canadian History to Confederation*, 8th ed., and *Destinies: Canadian History since Confederation*, 8th ed. – are available as PDFs in the course OWL Brightspace site. Print copies are available on 1-day loan in Weldon Library.

All other course material is available on the course OWL site and/or through the Western Libraries system. Weldon Library has [research resources for History students](#) and a [research guide specifically for History 2201E students](#). The *Origins* and *Destinies* textbooks have extensive bibliographies as well.

Methods of Evaluation:

Further information on all assignments will be provided on OWL, in class, and/or in tutorial.

- The course's major writing assignment is a **research essay**, using secondary and primary sources, on a topic related to any period of Canadian history. Students may choose from a list of potential topics made available to them in September or select

their own subject with the approval of their tutorial leader. The essay will be built in 3 stages.

- **Stage 1 – Proposal & annotated bibliography – due on OWL, 11 November – 10%**

Students will submit a 500-word description of their proposed second-term research essay, outlining its topic and tentative thesis, plus an annotated bibliography of 6 secondary sources (100 words per entry = 600 words) that they plan to use in their essay.

- **Stage 2 – Primary source analysis – due on OWL, 27 January – 8%**

In 2 short essays of 500 words each, students will analyze 2 primary sources that they plan to use in their research essay. (Please submit as 1 document.)

- **Stage 3 – Research essay – due on OWL, 24 March – 22%**

Building on the preceding steps, students will submit a 3000-word research essay.

- **Course engagement – 20%**

Students are to take part in discussion of the lectures and assigned readings in tutorials. Attendance in tutorials is mandatory, but attendance alone does not constitute participation. Tutorials begin first term during the week of 9 September and second term during the week of 6 January.

- Note that students will receive a provisional grade (5%) for course engagement when their proposal & annotated bibliography is returned, by the end of the week of 4 November.

- **Mid-year exam – December exam period – 20%**

The exam will cover all lectures, tutorials, and required readings from the first term, and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

- **Final exam – April exam period – 20%**

The exam will cover all lectures, tutorials, and required readings from the second term, and will consist of short answer and essay questions.

Make-up midterms and exams can only be approved by Academic Counselling. Please see the History Department's [Undergraduate Policies and Statements](#) page for procedures and requirements involving make-up exams.

Absences, Late Assignments, & Course-specific Policies:

- Written assignments, with the exception of exams, have a built-in, blanket extension: they can be submitted up to 7 days after the due date, without penalty. Beyond that, there will be a 3% deduction per day, including weekends.
- All assignments must be submitted in order to pass the course.
- Students are to submit assignments through the course OWL Brightspace site. The Faculty of Social Science's policy statement on plagiarism and the use of

plagiarism detection software is outlined in the History Department's [Undergraduate Policies and Statements](#) page.

- The use of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT is discouraged in this course and is permitted only for activities such as brainstorming and refining ideas or checking grammar and style. Beyond that, you are not to make use of such tools in the writing of course assignments. **All writing submitted in this course must be your own.** (If in doubt, please ask your instructor for clarification.)
- The UWO Academic Handbook requires that an essay course such as His2201E “must be so structured that the student is required to demonstrate competence in essay writing to pass the course.” As such, His2201E students must receive a passing grade on the total value of the essay and its components to pass the course.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Fall Term

- 1. Week of 9 September **Introduction / After the Ice Age**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 1
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Alan MacEachern, “[A Theory, in Practice: Back to the Bering Land Bridge](#),” *ActiveHistory.ca* blog, July 2017.
 - Christopher Moore, “[As Long as the Rivers Have Run and the Grass Has Grown, Seriously](#),” *Christopher Moore’s History News* blog, July 2017.
- 2. Week of 16 September **Indigenous Peoples & Newcomers**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 2
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Eva Jewell & Ian Mosby, “Call to Action Accountability: A 2022 Status Update” (2022), 6-15.
 - Jim Miller, “Which ‘Native’ History? By Whom? For Whom?” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Fall 2008), 33-5.
- 3. Week of 23 September **New France to 1663**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 3-4
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Alan Gordon, “Teaching Quebec: Why Quebec’s History Matters to English Canada,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Summer 2013), 47-50.
 - Allan Greer, “1608 as Foundation,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Fall 2008), 20-3.

- 4. Week of 30 September **New France to 1755**
 - **Note:** Historian of New France Allan Greer is giving the History department's [Goodman lectures](#) this year. On Wednesday 3 October, instead of our regular class, His2201 will attend the 3rd of Greer's 3 Goodman lectures, at 2:30 in Great Hall, Somerville House 3326.
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 5-6
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Allan Greer, "[There Was No Seigneurial System](#)," *Borealia* blog, Sep 2018.
 - Benoît Grenier and Alain Laberge, "[Beyond the 'System': The Enduring Legacy of Seigneurial Property](#)," *Borealia* blog, Oct 2018.

- 5. Week of 7 October **Empires at War**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 7-8
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Jason Farago, "[The Myth of North America in One Painting](#)," *New York Times*, 25 Nov 2020.
 - Donald Fyson, "The Conquered and the Conqueror: The Mutual Adaptation of the *Canadiens* and the British in Quebec, 1759-75," *Revisiting 1759: The Conquest of Canada in Historical Perspective*, eds. Phillip Buckner and John G. Reid (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012), 190-217.

- Week of 14 October **Fall reading week**

- 6. Week of 21 October **BNA & the American Revolution**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 9-10
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Jack Little, "Americans into Canadians: National Identity North of the 45th Parallel, 1792-1850," *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Spring 2009), 57-9.
 - Alan Taylor, "The Divided Ground: Upper Canada, New York, and the Iroquois Six Nations, 1783-1815," *Journal of the Early Republic*, vol. 22 no. 1 (Spring 2002), 55-75.

- 7. Week of 28 October **BNA from 1791**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 11-12
 - Tutorial reading:

- Charmaine A. Nelson, “Neither Indigenous, Nor Settlers: The Place of Africans in Canada’s Founding Nations’ Model,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (2016), 43-6.
 - Afua Cooper, “Acts of Resistance: Black Men and Women Engage in Slavery in Upper Canada, 1793-1803,” *Ontario History* (spring 2007), 5-17.
- 8. Week of 4 November **Beyond the River & the Bay**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 13-14
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Carolyn Podruchny, “Writing, Ritual, and Folklore: Imagining the Cultural Geography of Voyageurs,” *Method and Meaning in Canadian Environmental History*, eds. Alan MacEachern and William J. Turkel (Toronto: Nelson, 2009), 55-74.
- 9. Week of 11 November **BNA to 1850: Growth, Rebellion, & Reform**
 - **Note:** Proposal & annotated bibliography due, 11 November.
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 15-17
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Veronica Strong-Boag, “Not Alone: Writing Canadian History as if the World Mattered,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Fall 2008), 20-23.
 - E.J. Errington, “‘Information Wanted’: Women Emigrants in a Transatlantic World,” *Canada and the British World: Culture, Migration, and Identity*, ed. Philip Buckner (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2006), 10-28.
- 10. Week of 18 November **BNA in the mid-19th century**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 18-20
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Adele Perry, “Hardy Backwoodsmen, Wholesome Women, and Steady Families: Immigration and the Construction of a White Society in Colonial British Columbia, 1849-1871,” *Histoire Sociale/Social History* 33 (2000), 343-60.
- 11. Week of 25 November **The Road to Confederation**
 - Lecture reading: *Origins*, ch. 21
 - Tutorial reading:
 - Thomas H.B. Symons, “John A. Macdonald: A Founder and Builder,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Summer 2015), 6-10.

- James Daschuk, “Acknowledging Patriarch’s Failures Will Help Canada Mature as a Nation,” *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Summer 2015), 39-46.
- 12. Week of 2 December **Expansion & Colonialism to 1885**
 - **Note:** 2 December is the last day to withdraw from His2201 without academic penalty.
 - Lecture reading: *Destinies*, ch. 3-4
 - Tutorial: Exam review

Winter term

The schedule for 2nd term classes & readings will be added in December.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History’s shared policies and statements for all undergraduate courses at history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html for important information regarding accessibility options, make-up exams, medical accommodations, health and wellness, academic integrity, plagiarism, and more.