

History 2140
Women in Canadian History: Changing Roles and Diverse Social Realities
2026 – 27

Instructor: **Mabel Gardner**
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Office Hours: On Zoom by request.

This is a **draft** outline. Please see the course site on OWL Brightspace for a final version.

Course Description:

The course is a survey of Canadian women's history from first European contact to the 1960s, with a focus on the realities of women's lived experiences as recorded through biography. The course is designed for non-History specialists and is an excellent survey course to learn more about Canadian women's history.

Antirequisites:

History 2182A/B; GSWS 2139A/B; GSWS 2140, GSWS 2208E.

Mode of Instruction:

Online Asynchronous

Course Syllabus:

Students will study Canadian women's history through a number of thematic and biographical sketches. The course is online and will include posted lectures and assigned readings each week. Students are expected to read at least one assigned reading per week which will range between 15 and 40 pages.

Methods of Evaluation:

1) Content Reflections (3 x 20%):	60% Total
Due Dates: 1) Weeks 2 to 7 Content Reflection:	Friday Oct. 30 at 4pm
2) Weeks 8 to 13 Content Reflection:	Friday Jan 15 at 4pm
3) Weeks 14 to 19 Content Reflection:	Friday Mar. 5 at 4pm

2) Final Examination	40%
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The final exam will be in an online format and will assess the weeks 20 to 26 content as well as key themes and content from throughout the course. The exam will be scheduled in April of 2027.

Content Reflection Instructions: Reflections should range between 5-8 pages with 12 font, double spaced, and standard margins. Each Reflection will address six specific weeks of content and should include discussion of at least one topic per week of study and references to specific evidence from at least one assigned reading per week. Students are also encouraged to gather evidence from primary source documents posted to the course site. A detailed rubric will be posted on the course OWL Brightspace

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page. Reflections are an opportunity for students to demonstrate their engagement with course materials.

Academic Integrity and Content Reflection Style Guidelines:

- Content Reflections should have a brief introductory paragraph that explains the organization and structure of the Reflection. No overall argument is required in the introduction. Each paragraph should address a single topic or theme that is clearly identified in the first sentence of the paragraph. Paragraphs can conclude with a sentence that speaks to the meaning or significance of the evidence and analysis in the paragraph. Paragraphs should be approximately 1/3 to 2/3 of a page of double-spaced text. A short concluding paragraph that briefly summarizes the main topics covered in the Reflection should also be included.
- Students are expected to write Content Reflections and Exam responses in their own words without the use of AI technology. The development of writing skills and the formation of academic ideas and arguments are important processes. As such, student work that demonstrates human qualities will be appreciated by the Professor. The Professor has great respect for the writing process no matter what skill level the student is working at.
- Please do not read book reviews of the assigned readings to appropriate the ideas, insights, and theories of other scholars.
- Grammar and sentence structure will not factor into grading.
- The Content Reflections will assess student abilities to generate and form arguments, locate and select specific evidence, and communicate ideas in the expected paragraph form.
- Please reference specific evidence from the lecture materials and assigned readings such as direct quotations from key stakeholders of an issue, the names and actions of historical subjects, and specific events that took place. Avoid handing in work that is composed of AI generalizations.

Citation Guidelines:

Students are expected to cite lecture materials, assigned readings, and primary source documents in Content Reflections. The course is closed to course materials so students cannot reference materials that were not assigned. A closed course allows for a house citation style where students only need to cite the author and page number of an assigned reading and the lecture title and slide number when referencing lecture information.

Citation example:

Book citation: Brown, 17.

Lecture citation: W4, S6. This citation means the information was located in the week four lecture on slide four.

Primary Source citation: W6, Arnold, 3. This citation means the document was located in week six of the course materials. The author is Arnold and the evidence is on page three. If there are no page numbers on the document, use the pdf page number. Use the title of the document if there is no author listed.

All information obtained from research must be cited. Consecutive sentences from the same source in the same paragraph do not require a citation, just the last sentence in the sequence. Each paragraph resets the citation sequence.

Students are welcome to cite their work with footnotes or in text citations.

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Course Materials:

All course readings will be attached to the course web page. There will be no books or course resources that will require purchase.

Absences and Late Assignments:

1. A penalty of 5% will be assessed for assignments submitted the first day after the deadline. Due Dates have been set to Fridays so students can hand work on the following Monday with a 5% penalty.
2. A penalty of 1% will be assessed for each subsequent day, including weekends.
3. No assignments will be accepted after the 7th day beyond the deadline, including weekends.
4. Exceptions to the above provisions will be granted only on the basis of
 - (a) compassionate grounds with documented evidence
 - (b) medical grounds for which written proof must be provided (**Note:** This may be submitted to the Dean's Office).
5. Computer breakdowns will not be considered under provision 4 (a).

Make-up exams can only be approved by Academic Advising. Please see <https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/history/policies-and-statements.html> for department procedures and requirements involving make-up tests and exams.

Effective September 1, 2026, students enrolled in a course with the Faculty of Social Science are entitled to one makeup assessment opportunity for a missed test/quiz, mid-term, or final exam supported by approved academic consideration. No additional makeup opportunities will be provided.

Course Schedule:

This outline is still subject to change. Please refer to the OWL Brightspace course site for the most up-to-date information including weekly lecture topics and assigned readings.

Week 1: Sept. 9-Sept. 11

- Course Introduction and Historical Methods

Week 2: Sept. 14-Sept. 18

- Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Histories

Week 3: Sept. 21-Sept. 25

- Feminist Biography, Sexuality Studies, and Oral History Methodologies

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Week 4: Sept. 28-Oct. 2

- Introduction to Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis Women's Histories

Week 5: Oct. 5-Oct. 9

- Introduction to Black Canadian Women's Histories

Fall Reading Week: Oct. 10-Oct. 18

Week 6: Oct. 19-Oct. 23

- Labour History

Week 7: Oct. 26-Oct. 30

- Journalism

Content Reflection #1 is due on October 30

Week 8: Nov. 2-Nov. 6

- The Klondike Gold Rush

Week 9: Nov. 9-Nov. 13

-Colonial BC

Week 10: Nov. 16-Nov. 20

-Colonization of the Prairie West

Week 11: Nov. 23-Nov. 27

-WWI, Suffrage, and the 1920s

Week 12: Nov. 30-Dec. 4

-The Great Depression

Week 13: Jan. 4-Jan.8

-WWII

Week 14: Jan. 11-Jan.15

-The Cold War

Content Reflection #2 is due on Jan. 15. The project assesses student learning from the Weeks 8 to 13 lectures and assigned readings.

Week 15: Jan. 18-Jan. 22

-Atlantic Canada

Week 16: Jan. 25-29

-Reproductive Rights

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Week 17: Feb. 1-Feb. 5

-Special Topics in Black Canadian Women's History

Week 18: Feb. 8-Feb.12

-Involvement in Politics

Winter Reading Week: Feb. 13-21

-Education and Academia

Week 19: Feb. 22-Feb. 26

-Special Topics in French Canadian Women's Histories

Week 20: Mar. 1-Mar. 5

-Special Topics in Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis Women's Histories

Content Reflection #3 is due on Mar. 5. The project assesses student learning from the Weeks 14 to 19 lectures and assigned readings.

Week 21: Mar. 8-Mar.12

-Mental Health, Disability, and Asylums

Week 22: Mar. 15-Mar. 19

-Military and Policing

Week 23: Mar. 22-Mar. 26

-Environmental and Migration Histories

Week 24: Mar. 29-Apr. 2

-Sports, Art, Music, Literature, and Popular Culture

Week 25: Apr. 5-9

-Anarchists, Organized Crime Figures, and anti-Establishment Women

Additional Statements:

Use of generative artificial intelligence (AI): Students may not make any use of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, in this course. Any use of such tools for assignments in this course may be considered a form of academic misconduct.

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

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