

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

Instructor: **Mabel Gardner**
Email: **mabel.gardner@uwo.ca**
Office Hours: **TBA**

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. Students that have busy work and extra-curricular schedules will appreciate that this course has no in person responsibilities.

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 biographical sketches that are organized in both a thematic and chronological framework. The class will feature three lecture hours of course instruction, which will include lecture recordings and other multimedia selections. Students will also be expected to complete at least one assigned reading per week that will be about 20-30 pages in length.

Methods of Evaluation:

1) Content Reflections (4 x 15%):	60% Total
Due Dates:	
1) Weeks 2 to 7 Content Reflection:	Friday Nov. 6 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
4) Weeks 20 to 25 Content Reflection:	Friday Apr. 9 at 4pm
2) Final Examination	40%
Exam type and instructions will be finalized later.	

This is a draft outline. 2026-27 version. Please see the course site on OWL Brightspace for a final version.

Content Reflection Instructions: Reflections should range between 600 and 1000 words and will address six specific weeks of content per Reflection. The Content Reflections are an opportunity for students to demonstrate their engagement with course materials. Identifying common themes that occur in different lectures is also suggested. Reflections can speak to the following question prompts and use specific evidence from lectures and assigned readings:

- A) What topics and issues stood out from the lectures and assigned readings as being impactful or especially important?
- B) Please share some arguments, opinions, or critiques of the topics and issues that were explored.
- C) Explore continuities and changes between the topics covered and the present.

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 should also be included.
- Students are encouraged 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 instructor. The Instructor 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 and assigned readings 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.

Absences and Late Assignments:

1. A penalty of five marks (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 in the following Monday with a 5% penalty.
2. A penalty of one mark (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.

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.

Course Schedule and Assigned Readings

Week 1: Sept. 8-Sept. 11

Course Introduction and Historical Methods

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 2: Sept. 14-Sept. 18

Gender Identity and Sexuality

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 3: Sept. 21-Sept. 25

Special Topics in Indigenous, Inuit, and Métis Women's histories

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 4: Sept. 28-Oct. 2

Special Topics in Black Women's histories

Assigned Readings: TBA

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

Week 5: Oct. 5-Oct. 9
Fur Trade
Assigned Readings: TBA

Fall Reading Week: Oct. 10-Oct. 18

Week 6: Oct. 19-Oct. 23
Colonial British Columbia
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 7: Oct. 26-Oct. 30
Victorian Society
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 8: Nov. 2-Nov. 6
Colonization in the Prairie-West
Assigned Readings: TBA

Content Reflection #1 is due on November 6. The project assesses student learning from the Weeks 2 to 7 lectures and assigned readings.

Week 9: Nov. 9-Nov. 13
Klondike Gold Rush
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 10: Nov. 16-Nov. 20
Suffrage
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 11: Nov. 23-Nov. 27
World War I and the 1920s
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 12: Nov. 30-Dec. 4
The Great Depression
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 13: Jan. 4-Jan.8
World War II
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 14: Jan. 11-Jan.15

Mental Health, Disability, and Asylums

Assigned Readings: TBA

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

Journalism

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 16: Jan. 25-29

Labour History

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 17: Feb. 1-Feb. 5

French-Canada

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 18: Feb. 8-Feb.12

Newfoundland

Assigned Readings: TBA

Winter Reading Week: Feb. 13-21

Week 19: Feb. 22-Feb. 26

Reproductive Rights

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 20: Mar. 1-Mar. 5

The Cold War

Assigned Readings: TBA

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

Teaching and Academia

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 22: Mar. 15-Mar. 19

Military and Policing

Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 23: Mar. 22-Mar. 26
Involvement in Politics
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 24: Mar. 29-Apr. 2
Sports, Art, Music, Literature, and Popular Culture
Assigned Readings: TBA

Week 25: Apr. 5-9
Anarchists, Organized Crime Figures, and anti-Establishment Women
Assigned Readings: TBA

***Content Reflection #4* is due on Apr. 9. The project assesses student learning from the weeks 20 to 25 lectures and assigned readings.**

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.