

University of Calgary  
Spring 2018  
CNST 201 - Introduction to Canadian Studies

Instructor: Rebecca Ralph

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Class: Monday & Wednesday – 12: 00 pm – 2: 45 pm

Classroom: SA 245

Office Hours: Monday 11: 00 – 11: 50 am & Tuesday 11: 00 am – 12: 00 pm

**Course Description:**

In this course, students will examine Canada, focusing on understanding contemporary issues facing the country. Students will participate in conversations about the nature of Canada and how the country's past shapes current debates and future challenges at home and in the larger international community. Students will learn about various dimensions of Canadian society including, politics, culture, economics, and religion. Guided by readings in the textbook and additional primary sources and articles, posted on D2L, this course will feature lectures and discussions that engage with the important themes of colonialism, multiculturalism, regionalism, and federalism. Students will also explore power dynamics in Canadian society and debates concerning the many contested and ever changing Canadian identities. This course will provide students with foundational knowledge about the history, geography, and political structure of Canada. Students will develop their critical writing, thinking, and speaking skills through actively unpacking the characteristics and tensions that define contemporary Canada.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will develop their critical thinking skills through engaging with primary sources, academic writing, and contemporary public debates.
- Students will develop their writing skills by learning how to craft reflections and assessments of key issues facing Canada today.
- Students will develop their ability to discuss complex questions through structured class discussions on challenges facing Canada today.
- Students will develop their public speaking and communication abilities through learning how to present complex issues in a systematic and concise manner.

**Required Text:**

James, Patrick and Mark Kasoff, eds. Canadian Studies in the New Millennium. 2nd ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013

**Student Assessments:**

Journal: 30%

Group Presentation and Report: 35%

Final Exam: 35%

**Class Schedule:**

Please note that additional readings and excerpts from primary sources will be posted on D2L before the start of term.

**Week 1 May 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>****Guiding Question: Why Canada?**

-Introductions and Overview of Syllabus

Topic: A Brief Overview of Canadian history

Textbook Reading: Chapter 2 Canadian History in a North American Context

**Week 2 May 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> (Class on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Canceled due to Victoria Day, University Closed)****Guiding Question: What is the significance of regionalism in Canada?**

Topics: Geographic and Demographic Diversity in Canada

Textbook Reading: Chapter 1 Canada: too Much Geography & Chapter 10 Canadian Environmental Policy

**Week 3 May 28<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>****Guiding Question: What shapes peoples' relationship to Canada?**

Topics: Canada as a Colonial Project: An Examination of Indigenous -Settler Relations & Canadian Multiculturalism

Textbook Reading: Chapter 8 Native Peoples & Chapter 5 Population and Immigration Policy

**Week 4 June 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>****Guiding Question: What is the political character of Canada?**

Topics: The Character of Canadian Federalism & Political Discourses surrounding the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Textbook Reading: Chapter 3 Politics and Government & Chapter 6 Quebec's Destiny & Chapter 11 Civil Society and the Vibrancy of Canadian Citizens

**Week 5 June 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>****Guiding Question: What makes something or someone Canadian?**

Topics: Canadian Popular Culture & Women in Canadian Society

Textbook Reading: Chapter 7 Literary and Pop Culture & Chapter 9 Women's Issues

**Week 6 June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>****Guiding Question: What is Canada's Place in the world?**

Topics: Domestic Economic Development and Global Trade & International Relations

Textbook Reading: Chapter 4 The Economy & Chapter 12 Canadian Foreign Policy

**-Group Presentations**

**-Group Power Point Presentation and Report Due Friday at 5pm on June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Week 7 June 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> (Last Class Monday June 25<sup>th</sup>, Exam Period – Thursday June 28<sup>th</sup> – Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>)**

**Guiding Question: How should we characterise contemporary Canada?**

Topic: National Myths and the Search for a Canadian Identity

Textbook Reading: Chapter 13 Future Prospects

**-Exam Review**

**Assessments Description:**

**Journal – 30%**

Three Entries Worth 10% Each

Students must write a total of **three** journal entries. Students will be able to submit journal entries for weeks 1-6. Students may choose the three weeks which interest them the most **or** may submit entries for more than three weeks and have the grades for their top three entries selected.

Journal entries should reflect on and respond to the week's guiding question. A guide for writing the week's journal entry, which will include a description of the week's theme and questions that students may decide to consider, will be posted on D2L each Monday before class.

Each journal entry should be **2 pages at a minimum to 3 pages at the maximum**, double spaced, Times New Roman size 12 font, with normal margins. When making references to specific readings such as articles or primary sources discussed in class, students are expected to cite those items in Chicago style footnotes. This notation style is described in the History Students' Handbook, which is available on D2L and the History Department's website.

Each entry is to be submitted on D2L at 5 pm on the Sunday following that week's classes. For example, an entry for week 1 (May 14- 18<sup>th</sup>) is due Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm on D2L.

**Group Presentation and Report: - 35%**

Students, in their assigned groups, will give a 10-15 minute presentation on a contemporary issue being debated at either the provincial or federal level and submit a 7-10-page double spaced report on the issue, and a bibliography of sources consulted. Students are expected to consult at least **six sources**. All sources must be cited in Chicago style footnotes in the report and in a bibliography attached to the report. This notation style is described in the History Students' Handbook, which is available on D2L and the History Department's website.

Students will be placed in groups of 5 people at a maximum. Presentations will be scheduled during week six, June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students are expected to put together a power point presentation, that briefly addresses the criteria outlined below. All group members are expected to speak. The group will submit their power point presentation and a single co-written more detailed typed report by email to the instructor at **5 pm on Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

All presentations and reports must include the following:

- 1) A Summary of the Issue
- 2) The Background of the Issue
- 3) What are the points of contention or different perspectives on resolving the issue?
- 4) Why is the issue significant to those directly involved?
- 5) What does this issue tell us about contemporary Canada?

Groups will be assigned by the instructor and posted on D2L. There will be class time dedicated to helping groups choose their topics and design their presentations.

Groups must choose their topics by **Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup>**. Groups must confirm their choice with the instructor.

A list of possible topics will be posted on D2L, however, groups may choose a topic not on the list after consultation with the instructor. All groups must present on different topics, so it is important to select your topic in a timely fashion.

### **Final Exam – 35%**

The final exam will consist of three parts. Part one, worth 5% will consist of multiple choice questions based on facts learned throughout the course. Part two will be short answer questions. Students will be provided with a selection of terms, events, and persons, from which they will choose **three** items worth 5% each. Students will be expected to identify the item and its significance to Canada and questions explored throughout the term. The final part will be a short essay, worth 10%, on the major themes examined throughout the course, students will have a choice of themes to write on.

Multiple Choice -5%

Short Answers – 15%

Essay -10%

### **Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information**

***\*Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.\****

*Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist*

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-

220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca), or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

### **Writing:**

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

### **Writing Support:**

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ssc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc).

### **Copyright:**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Red Box Policy:**

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name** and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the

office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

### Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

## **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook*

([http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history\\_students\\_handbook\\_2015.pdf](http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf)),

plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

## **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

## **Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

## **Campus Resources for Mental Health:**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student

Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

**Other Useful Information:**

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

*Spring/Summer 2018*