

HTST 593.22: Canadian Censorship: A History of the Regulation of Expression in Canada

Class Time: Tuesdays, 2-4:45

Room: SS 117

Instructor: Dr. Lyndsay Campbell

Contact information: Offices: SS 650 and MFH 4370B

e-mail: lcampbe@ucalgary.ca

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Email usually reaches me faster than telephone messages.

Office Hours: Thursdays, 1-3 pm in MFH 4370B. I am happy to schedule appointments too, in either office.

Course Description:

This course will explore legal and extra-legal strategies to control what people said or published, starting in the pre-Confederation period and ending in the late 20th century. We will discuss responses to political crises, including the turmoil between 1800 and 1840 and censorship during and since the Great War. We will look as well at responses to expression judged morally dangerous, such as suggestive theatrical performances and modernist literature.

The underlying premise of the course is that what we say, write and publish is always conditioned by the social context in which we find ourselves. When people choose to sue other people for damages or to launch a criminal prosecution, they have made a strategic choice to threaten to use the public forum of the courtroom to address their grievances and to seek to punish the one who has caused offence. The focus of this course, therefore, will be on understanding the cultural and political conditions that have undergirded episodes in which legal strategies have been used to address expression. Students will therefore develop some understanding of legal processes and record-keeping, but they do not need to have legal knowledge going into the course.

The major undertaking of the course will be a collaborative research project on a couple of interlinked Calgary cases from the early twentieth century, which the instructor has dug out of the provincial archives in Edmonton and which have never before received scholarly attention. (Most Alberta cases have never received scholarly attention; the Calgary court files are barely even indexed.) We are going to divide up the reading of secondary sources, the research into primary sources, and the writing so as – hopefully – to produce a publishable piece of work.

Class periods will be divided approximately in half, such that the first half is spent on discussion of texts on the history of the regulation of expression in Canada, and the second half is spent working on our collaborative project. Students are therefore expected to stay up-to-date on their class readings and also to contribute to our developing research project. Before the first draft is due, we will spend one entire class session in the library working on the research and writing of the various components of the paper.

Course Requirements

- Group Research Project (65%):
 - Preliminary bibliography due 6 pm, Monday, January 15, 2018 (5%)
By way of preparing ourselves for our collaborative project, each student will prepare a bibliography of secondary readings. I will assemble these bibliographies into an overall bibliography for our project, which I will post on the course website, and we will divide up the reading in class on January 16.
 - Summaries due 1 pm, Tuesday, January 30, 2018 (5%)
Students will each prepare 300-word summaries of the texts assigned to them, which will describe the text and evaluate its probable usefulness for the group. I will post these summaries on the course website, and students can use them as the basis for their historiographical essays.
 - Historiographical essay due 4 pm, Friday, February 16, 2018 (20%)
Using the overall bibliography and the summaries, we will have broken up the work entailed in the project, so that each student has a distinct piece to do. Each student will next write a historiographical essay pertaining to the student's piece of the overall project. The paper will analyze the current state of the literature on the topic and describe what contributions to the historiography might be made by the group's scholarship in the area. (One student's historiographical paper, for example, might be on how our project would contribute to the scholarship on the history of Alberta politics. Another might be on the paper's contribution to our knowledge of the history of the legal profession in Alberta, or the province's newspapers.)
 - First draft of individual components due 4 pm, Friday, March 2, 2018 (15%)
This assignment is the first draft of each student's individual piece of the overall project. I will paste the pieces together and make the text available to all.
 - Second draft – full text due 4 pm, Friday, March 16, 2018 (10%)
On Tuesday, March 6 and 13, students will work together in class on improving the draft and supplementing it with additional research findings and new arguments. The second draft will be due on March 16, and it will be graded as a group assignment.
 - Public presentation, 3 pm, Tuesday, March 20, 2018 (5%)
We will open the class to family, friends, instructors and admirers.
 - Final draft and individual analysis, due 4 pm, Thursday, March 29, 2018 (10%)
The final group paper will be submitted, along with individual students' reflections on the experience and the paper's successes and shortcomings.

- Class participation / seminar leadership (5%)
Each student will be expected to have read the assigned readings for the week and to be able to discuss them in the seminar. As well, each student will be required, once in the term, to give a five-minute presentation on one of the week's readings, which will be used as a springboard to our in-class discussion. These presentations will explain and analyze particular primary or secondary texts and draw out connections between them and other themes and concerns in the course. Students should present the material in a way that sparks questions from other students and opens thematic and methodological issues for us to discuss as a group. A schedule for oral presentations will be created and posted on the course website.
- Final exam, scheduled by the registrar (25%)
The final exam will be on the readings and class discussion, apart from the group project. Students may bring to the exam up to five pages of notes.

Students must complete all elements in order to pass the course.

For all papers, please refer to the “The History Student’s Handbook: A Short Guide to Writing History Essays” (<http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/EssayHandbook1.pdf>) and, for questions it does not answer, the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Legal citations must conform to the McGill *Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation*, 8th ed. (Toronto: Thomson Carswell, 2014). (There is a “cheat sheet” to the McGill guide at <http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/guides/mcgillguide>; for mysteries it leaves unanswered, ask me.)

Written submissions will be assessed on the basis of the composition, coherence and persuasiveness of the argument, taking into account writing effectiveness as well (grammar, style etc.).

Writing should be submitted electronically via the D2L dropbox.

Late assignments for which no extension has been given may be penalized one-third of a letter grade per day (and weekend days count just like weekdays): an A-, for example, turns into a B.

Required Readings:

Most assigned readings will be made available through the course website or – if that is impossible – through the library.

Each student will be expected to make at least one off-campus research trip to a nearby library or archive.

Evaluation:

Students will receive either letter grades or numerical grades, depending on the

assignment. See the Academic Information document, which will be posted on D2L, for a description of what each letter grade tells you about your performance. In calculating your final grade in the course, I will use the midpoint of the percentage band as the numerical equivalent of a letter grade, except in the case of a grade of F, which I will adjust based on my assessment of just how unsatisfactory the performance was. For example, if you achieve a B on an assignment, I will treat your grade on that assignment as being 74.5%.

Seminar Schedule:

Jan. 9: Introduction to the course and the group project.

- In preparation, please read John Wertheimer et al., “*Willis v. Jolliffe: Love and Slavery on the South Carolina-Ohio Borderlands*” in *Freedom’s Conditions in the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands in the Age of Emancipation*, edited by Tony Freyer and Lyndsay Campbell, 257-84. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2011 (D2L). This book chapter emerged from a group project done in an upper-level history seminar taught by my colleague John Wertheimer at Davidson College in North Carolina. We are setting our sights similarly high.

Jan. 16: Conceptual frameworks on censorship

Jan. 23: The American Revolution and Sedition in the Maritimes

Jan. 30: Loyalty and Republicanism in Upper and Lower Canada

Feb. 6: Joseph Howe and Procedure, Evidence and Juries

Feb. 13: Civil Suits, Privacy and the Media

Feb. 20: Reading Week

Feb. 27: Research class

Mar. 6: Indecency, Gender, Homosexuality and the Early Twentieth-Century Stage

Mar. 13: Labour, Censorship and the Winnipeg General Strike

Mar. 20: Wartime Censorship and its Aftermath and class research presentation

Mar. 27: Midcentury Turmoil in Quebec and Alberta

Apr. 3: Modernist Literature, Obscenity and the Vulnerable Young

Apr. 10: Administrative Censorship

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

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. 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, 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/>.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

Students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number as well as their names. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment if the person from whom you are claiming it does not know you personally. If you send someone else to pick up a paper for you, that person will be required to show identification and your authorization.

Research Involving Human Participants:

It is not anticipated that your work in this course will involve any interaction with human participants, such as interviews. Research involving living people requires special approvals. Please speak to your instructor if you are thinking of doing such research.

Using the Internet and Electronic Devices:

Students may use their computers in class for taking notes, referring to primary and secondary readings, and other purposes related to the class. You may not record the class without the instructor's permission.

Academic Misconduct:

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link;

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

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 3rd 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.

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

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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), 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). 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.

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.

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, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, 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>

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