

TDSB @ UofT History



Thurs. May 10, 2018

Welcome to the TDSB @ UofT History Conference. We are happy to welcome you into the History Department, introduce you to new and different fields of historical study and give you a sense of what it would be like to be an Undergraduate History student at the University of Toronto.

Throughout the day, you will participate in a variety of lectures and roundtables, as well as take a tour of campus. This day is designed to get you critically and actively thinking about new trends in history, so please ask lots of questions during the sessions!

TDSB @ UofT History Conference: Schedule At-A-Glance

SS=Sidney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street

8:30-9:00 a.m.

Registration	Room, SS2127
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9:00-9:55 a.m.

Plenary: "Intrigue, Deception and Scandal: A Canadian Detective Story"	Professor David Wilson	Room, SS2117
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10:00-10:55 a.m.

A.1	"Some Animals Are More Equal Than Others: The Caribbean, Canada and the History of Democracy"	Professor Melanie Newton	Room, SS2108
A.2	"Sixteenth Century Florence: Sex, Silk, Sodomy, and Autobiography"	Camila Walls Castillo, Aidan Flynn, Konrad Boeschstein, History undergraduate students	TBD
A.3	"Race, Gender, and Visual Culture in Latin America"	Professor Tamara Walker	Room, SS2106
A.4	"French and American Wars in Vietnam"	Professor Nhung Tran	Room, SS2108
A.5	"Playing War: The Dynamic Histories of Militarized Popular Culture"	Kelsey Kilgore, PhD Student	Room, SS2110
A.6	Campus Tour	Meet at the main entrance (east entrance on St. George Street) of Sidney Smith Hall (cap. 30)	

11:00-11:55 a.m.

B.1	"Suffer the Children: Searching for Irish Famine Orphans in Quebec"	Professor Mark McGowan	Room, SS2108
B.2	AGHS/TDSB Scholars' Roundtable: Senses and Spaces in historical research	Professor Nicholas Terpstra, Professor Alison Smith, Professor Yvon Wang	Room, SS2117
B.3	"Resistance and Resilience: Histories of Indigenous Peoples in the Caribbean"	Shenella Charles, PhD Student	TBD
B.4	"Patties, Poultry and Poutine: The True History of 'Canadian' Food"	Joel Dikau, PhD Student	TBD

B.5	TBD	Sevda Sparks, PhD Student	Room, SS2110
B.6	Campus Tour	Meet at the main entrance (east entrance on St. George Street) of Sidney Smith Hall (cap. 30)	

12:00:12:55 p.m.

Lunch	Room, SS2127
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1:00-1:55 p.m.

C.1	TBD, critical historical thinking	Professor Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi	Room, SS2106
C.2	"Revolutions in Russia: 1917 as an End and as a Beginning"	Professor Alison Smith	Room, SS2108
C.3	"American soft power during the Cold War"	Thomas Blampied, PhD Student	Room, SS2105
C.4	"Unlocking Canada's Nuclear Vault: How UofT Undergrads Conduct Research in Secret Cold War Files"	Professor Tim Sayle	TBD
C.5	"Decolonizing Women's History"	Professor Nhung Tran	Room SS2110
C.6	Campus Tour	Meet at the main entrance (east entrance on St. George Street) of Sidney Smith Hall (cap. 30)	

2:00-2:55 p.m.

D.1	"Encounters and Exchanges on the Silk Roads and Beyond"	Professor Carol Chin	Room, SS2110
D.2	"We're Here, We're Queer: Toronto's LGBTQ+ Activism 1970s-1990s"	Elspeth Brown, Professor	Room, SS2108
D.3	"Air Pollution and Noise Pollution in Late Renaissance Italy"	Julia Rombough, PhD Student	Room, SS2106
D.4	TBD	Bradley Melle, PhD Student	Room, SS2105
D.5	"Being and Becoming a Settler in Early Colonial Mexico, 1546-1625"	Lindsay Sidders, PhD Student	TBD
D.6	Campus Tour	Meet at the main entrance (east entrance on St. George Street) of Sidney Smith Hall (cap. 30)	

Thursday 10 May 2018

8:30-9:00 a.m., SS2127

Registration

9:00-9:10 a.m., SS2117

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Professor Nicholas Terpstra, Chair, Department of History

9:10-9:55 a.m., SS2117

Intrigue, Deception and Scandal: A Canadian Detective Story

Plenary, Professor David Wilson

In October 1865, the Fenians — Irish revolutionaries in the United States, dedicated to the independence of Ireland and the destruction of the British Empire — drew up plans to invade Canada. The Canadian secret police set out to stop them.

This is the story of Canada's best detective, his attempts to infiltrate the Fenian Brotherhood, and the sex scandal that brought him down — a story from a world of shadows, finally brought into the light of day.



Thursday 10 May 2018

A.1: 10:00-10:55 a.m., SS2108

Some Animals Are More Equal Than Others: The Caribbean, Canada and the History of Democracy
Professor Melanie Newton

The interconnected histories of the Caribbean and Canada reveal how the British empire used its power to enfranchise the empire's white subjects at the expense of everyone else... while claiming to spread equality and freedom. This serves as a reminder of how settler colonialism, racism and slavery have shaped the modern world.

A.2: 10:00-10:55 a.m., TBD

*Sixteenth Century Florence:
Sex, Silk, Sodomy, and Autobiography*
Camila Walls Castilo, Konrad
Boeschstein, Aidan Flynn

UofT's academic opportunities allow you to design your degree your own way.

Learn how three history undergraduates are earning credit for their independent study projects while collaborating with an internationally-funded research team.

A.3: 10:00-10:55 a.m., SS2106

*Race, Gender, and Visual Culture in
Latin America*
Professor Tamara Walker

My presentation uses a controversial 2011 photograph of a wealthy and connected Colombian family as a starting point for discussing depictions of race and gender in Latin America's visual culture.

A.4: 10:00-10:55 a.m., SS2108

Revolution in Việt Nam: 1945-1975,
Professor Nhung Tran

How did everyday Vietnamese experience the three decades of war that culminated in the defeat of the largest military in the world? This presentation examines how revolution shaped the lives of Vietnamese throughout the country and how the use of American money and military force from 1950 produced the conditions for perpetual war and massacres within Việt Nam and genocide in Cambodia.

A.5: 10:00-10:55 a.m., SS2110

*Playing War: The Dynamic Histories of
Militarized Popular Culture*
Kelsey Kilgore, PhD Student

This session explores new ways of doing History that use non-traditional sources to reveal connections between the US military, Hollywood, and commercial toy companies. These connections inform our understanding of popular myths and ideas in US culture, and the dynamic ways that History can use multimedia sources to ask

Thursday 10 May 2018

B.1: 11:00-11:55 a.m., SS2108

*Suffer the Children:
Searching for Irish Famine Orphans in Quebec*
Professor Mark McGowan

In 1847 -1848 nearly 1000 Irish orphans, victims of the Great Irish Famine arrived in Quebec. In Canadian historical lore, Canadians were praised for their generosity and hospitality.

But what really happened to these children? The answer may shock you.

B.2: 11:00-11:55 a.m., SS2117

Scholar's Roundtable:
Senses and Spaces in Historical Research
An AGHS/TDSB joint presentation

The Scholars' Roundtable will discuss the role of the five senses and the representation of physical spaces in history. We ask: why are the senses important in the study of history?

The Roundtable will also explore how historians incorporate senses and spaces into our work.

B.5: 11:00-11:55 a.m., TBD

American-Arab Relations During the Cold War
Sevda Sparks, PhD Student

From the Eisenhower Doctrine to the Nixon Doctrine, the Arab Middle East has been an important region to the United States in many ways. All of the doctrines focused on the Soviet position in the region, a balance between the two major superpowers. They are also a reflection of the American position at home and abroad. The language of these doctrines might not seem deliberately vague, but they are important signals of what the administration was hoping to achieve.

B.3: 11:00-11:55 a.m., TBD

Resistance and Resilience: Histories of Indigenous Peoples in the Caribbean
Shenella Charles, PhD Student

This lecture challenges narratives of Indigenous disappearance in the Caribbean through the illumination of stories of Indigenous resistance and resilience. PhD Candidate, Shenella Charles will discuss why the histories of Indigenous peoples are important to the study of the Caribbean. She will explore key historical moments and highlight the main issues that Indigenous peoples in the Caribbean continue to face.

B.4: 11:00-11:55 a.m., TBD

*Patties, Poultry and Poutine:
The True History of "Canadian" Food*
Joel Dickau, PhD Student

Is "Canadian" food really different from "American" food? Who decides what is and isn't "Canadian" food?

The answers will surprise you.

12:00-12:55 p.m.

Lunch, SS2127



Thursday 10 May 2018

C.1: 1:00-1:55 p.m., SS2127

Critical Historical Thinking
Professor Mohamed Tavakoli-Targhi

Abstract forthcoming.

C.2 1:00-1:55 p.m., SS2108

*Revolutions in Russia:
1917 as an End and a Beginning*
Professor Alison Smith

In 1917, two revolutions in Russia toppled the empire of the tsars and then replaced it with Soviet (or Bolshevik) power. Historians of the Soviet Union recognize 1917 as an important year, but see it as only the beginning of a revolution that lasted years. In this session, we'll think through how 1917 was both a beginning and an end, and also address the question of historical inevitability.

C.5: 1:00-1:55 p.m., SS2110

*Decolonizing Women's History: First World
Feminism and the Construction of the "Third
World Woman"*
Professor Nhung Tran

Why is it necessary to decolonize women's history? This lecture examines how white, middle class feminism produced the image of a modern, agentic, first world "Woman" and while her non-western counterpart, the "Third World Woman," emerged as a static symbol of female oppression. This "Third World Woman" at once drives a narrative of Western modernity and "other" backwardness, reproducing nineteenth century colonial narratives.

C.3: 1:00-1:55 p.m., SS2105

*American Soft Power During the
Cold War*
Thomas Blampied, PhD Student

Using a variety of examples, this session will demonstrate how both the US government and the private sector fought the Soviet Union using culture, information and business. It's been said that Pepsi and blue jeans won the Cold War, but did they really?

C.4: 1:00-1:55 p.m., TBD

*Unlocking Canada's Nuclear Vault:
How UofT Undergrads Conduct Research in
Secret Cold War Files*
Professor Tim Sayle

How and why did Canada acquire nuclear weapon systems during the Cold War, and why would Canada have fired them? See how UofT undergraduates get access to previously Top Secret – Canadian Eyes Only records and use them for essays and other projects.



Thursday 10 May 2018

D.1: 2:00-2:55 p.m., SS2108

Encounters and Exchanges on the Silk Roads and Beyond

Professor Carol Chin

The “Silk Roads” – the name conjures up an air of mystery and romance. Come find out how goods, people, and ideas were exchanged along this network of trade routes. We’ll see how the exchange of commodities fostered the development of cultures and religions, and vice versa. We’ll meet camel caravans, traveling monks, and nomadic chieftains – and discover some surprising ways that a commodity like silk could be used when it arrived in markets far from its origin.

D.3: 2:00-2:55 p.m., SS2108

Air Pollution and Noise Pollution in Late Renaissance Italy

Julia Rombough, PhD Student

Late Renaissance Italians worried deeply about urban air quality, and believed that unhealthy air was responsible for a host of medical and social problems. Sound played a key role in this. Noises and unhealthy sounds poisoned the air, while positive healthy sounds could cleanse polluted air. This talk recreates sixteenth and seventeenth century soundscapes and uncovers the environmental, medical, gender, and social histories associated with sound, noise, & silence.

D.2: 2:00-2:55 p.m., SS2110

*We’re Here, We’re Queer:
Toronto’s LGBTQ+ Activism of the
1970s-1990s*

Come learn about Toronto’s rich queer, trans, and Two-Spirited past, while at the same time getting a glimpse into the unparalleled archival sources available in Toronto for studying transnational LGBTQ+ history.

D.4: 2:00-2:55 p.m., SS2105

*Preaching Jesus through an "Aboriginal Lens":
Indigenous-led Evangelical Christianity and Inner
Healing in Canada's North, 1950-2000*
Bradley Melle, PhD Student

Despite the ugly legacy of church-led residential schools in Canada, in the decades since the 1950s conservative evangelical Christianity has made significant inroads among Indigenous communities in Canada's north, with much of its growth attributable to the work of independent, Indigenous-led organizations. Seeing faith in Jesus as the solution to both personal crises and complex social problems, evangelical Christianity continue to attract new Indigenous believers through a gamut of mediums, promising powerful experiences of transformation, inner healing from trauma, freedom from addiction, and the restoration of self-esteem.

Thursday 10 May 2018

D.5: 2:00-2:55 p.m., SS2106

Being and Becoming a Settler in Early Colonial Mexico, 1546-1625

Lindsay Sidders, PhD Student

In this session I will discuss the life of a first-generation Hispanic-descended settler, Bishop Alonso de la Mota y Escobar, in early colonial Mexico. The questions we will ask and try to answer include: how does a social, cultural, and political inheritance of violence and conquest manifest itself in individual and collective consciousness? how do theoretical and on-the-ground beliefs and policies of exclusion and inclusion shape societal norms, conventions, and relationships? what was colonial Mexican society and what is the legacy of 300 years of colonization (1521-1821) in modern Mexico?

CAMPUS TOURS (max. 30)

**Meet at the main entrance of Sidney Smith Hall
(east entrance on St. George Street)**

A.6: 10:00-10:55 a.m.

B.6: 11:00-11:55 a.m.

C.6: 1:00-1:55 p.m.

D.6: 2:00-2:55 p.m.



What careers are available to a person with their B.A. in History?

History graduates put their training directly to use in such fields as law, politics, business, government service, museums, libraries and archives, documentary filmmaking, journalism, international relations, urban planning, teaching and many other areas. With emphasis on analysis, critical reading, productive research, and effective oral and written communication, our program gives undergraduate students the skills and knowledge to excel in an ever-changing workplace and society. The Department also hosts events throughout the academic year offering our students an opportunity to gain career advice, mentorship and encouragement from faculty and alumni.

As a student, how can I become involved in the History Department?

Our History Students' Association (HSA), a group organized and run by our undergraduate students, is actively involved in organizing social and academic events for students and faculty. On 30 January 2016, they held their second annual Undergraduate HSA Conference, "The Brutalities of Progress: Resistance, Revolution and Social Movement." To coincide with the themes and papers presented at the Conference, the HSA also published a special edition of their journal *The Future of History*. For more information on the HSA, please visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uofthsa>

What does the program look like if I want to study history in university?

1. *History Specialist*: The Specialist program offers the most detailed and focused study equivalent to 10 full HIS courses. In the first year students must complete 2 full-year or "Y" HIS courses, and one of those must be at the 100-level. Students must achieve a mark of 73% in both of their courses.
2. *History Major*: The History Major program is designed for students who want to combine advanced History studies with another subject. In first year, students must complete 1 full-year or "Y" HIS course at the 100-level with a mark of at least 65%.
3. *History Minor*: The History Minor program is designed to allow students in other disciplines to combine their interest in History with their other major(s) or speciality programs. History Minors must complete 4 full-year or "Y" courses during their entire undergraduate degree, including 1 full-year or "Y" HIS course at the 100-level.

Regular outreach events for History students in September and March, for details contact the Undergraduate Administrator: hisugadm@utoronto.ca. If you have any questions about the History program requirements at any point during your undergraduate career, please make an appointment with the Undergraduate Administrator: hisugadm@utoronto.ca.

What courses can I take as a first-year student?

100-level HIS courses are designed for students entering university. They take a broad sweep of material, and introduce students to the methods and techniques of university study. Each week, students will attend two lectures given by the course professor, and participate in one tutorial led by a teaching assistant.

HIS100Y: History of the Arctic, People have made the Arctic home for millennia, creating circumpolar cultures in its challenge climate. This course compares and examines connections in the contested polar region through several themes: cultures in contact, trade and exploration, environment, crime and punishment and defense and sovereignty.

HIS101Y: Histories of Violence, Ranging widely chronologically and geographically, this course explores the phenomenon of violence in history. It examines the roles and meanings of violence in particular societies (e.g. samurai Japan), the ideological foundations and use of violence in the clash of cultures (e.g. slavery), and the effects and memorialization of violence.

HIS102Y: Empires, Encounters, and Exchanges, Interactions among peoples, empires, and cultures, with particular attention to the non-European world. Can we speak of “international relations” before the modern concept of nation-states was established? What forms did globalization take in the pre-modern era? Covering a broad chronological sweep we will look at exchanges of goods and technologies; dissemination of ideas and religions; voyages of migration and exploration; and episodes of conquest and colonization.

HIS103Y: Statecraft and Strategy, This course seeks to promote an understanding of the historical development of organized international relations during the period, 1648 to 1945. It will highlight, in particular, the varying roles of war in the international system: as an instrument of national policy (to protect or pursue national interests); as an agent of change within the system (to accommodate shifts in the Balance of Power); and as a threat to the survival of international society (from aggression or Armageddon). Appropriate attention will be paid to the contributions made by individuals, ideas and institutions to the evolution of international order, through such ordeals by fire as the Wars of Louis XIV, the Napoleonic Wars, the Wars of National Unification of the Nineteenth Century and the First and Second World Wars of the Twentieth Century.

HIS106Y: The African Diaspora in the Americas, 1492-1804, This course introduces the history of the African Diaspora in the Americas, from 1492-1804. Lectures and readings will draw from primary sources and historical scholarship to focus on a range of topics, including slavery and the slave trade, race relations, gender and sexuality, religious and cultural practices, and liberation struggles.

HIS107Y: Approaches to East Asian History, This course draws on the history of China, Korea and Japan between 1600 to 1950 to explore historical issues of gender, nationalism, war and relations with the West.

The Department also offers *SII199* seminar courses each year. These are limited to **twenty** students each. You work more closely with the professor and other students, and gain a more intense training in historical methods. Recent offerings have included:

SII 199H, Capitalism, the First 3000 Years. Celebrated and decried, held up by some as the natural state of affairs, critiqued by others as an unjust construct, capitalism is an inescapable part of globalized life. Capitalism also has a long and contested history, which students in this course will explore through critical reading and seminar discussion.

SII 199H, Religion and Violence. In this seminar we will explore the complex roles of religion in cases of extreme violence. Working chronologically backward from the 1990s (Rwanda, former Yugoslavia), we will consider cases from a number of locations and decades in the 20th century (Cambodia in the 1970s, the Holocaust in the 1940s, Armenians in the 1910s, Southwest Africa in the 1900s). Rather than limiting ourselves to the recent past, we will also explore cases from the 19th century (imperialism) and earlier as well as ongoing situations that connect past and present (aboriginal people in the Americas). Students will be expected to do the assigned readings (from personal accounts, primary sources, and scholarly articles), participate actively in discussions, prepare a series of short responses, make an oral presentation individually or with a group, and produce a final paper based on original research.

SII 199Y, Telling Lies with Maps. How has map-making served deceit and disinformation through the ages? This course examines the use and abuse of maps from many perspectives. It emphasizes the impermanence of political frontiers in history, allowing students to follow the “spatial turn” in historical writing. It explores the subjective side of map-making, asking what map-makers thought was important to include or omit on their maps. And it investigates how a “sense of place” operates in history, animating local autonomy movements, nationalism, and efforts at globalization. This course also integrates historical cartography into the context of other attempts to display quantitative and other kinds of information visually. What makes a good map legible or illuminating? What makes a bad map confusing or deceitful? Are certain kinds of data (e.g. demographic patterns or election results) displayed to best effect in map form, or do maps make it easier to skew the results? Overall, this seminar allows students to share in the sense of discovery that has inspired map-makers throughout history. It may also help them catch out liars and cheats who, even in today’s global age, still use maps to hoodwink an unsuspecting public.

*Thank you to the sponsors for their support
of the TDSB @ UofT History Conference!*



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