

HIST 4530: The Development of Toronto

Fall | Winter | Thursdays 4:00pm-7:00pm | Vari Hall 1152

Course website: <http://www.developmentoftoronto.com>

Course director: Gilberto Fernandes | Email: pchp@yorku.ca

Office: Kaneff Tower, Rm 722 | Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00pm-4:00pm (or by appointment)

History Department: Vari Hall 2140 (M-F, 8:30am-4:00pm) | 416 736 5123 | <http://www.yorku.ca/uhistory/>

Undergraduate Program in History: <http://history.laps.yorku.ca/undergraduate6program/>

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Deborah Neill: dushist@yorku.ca | 416 736 2100 x 66968

Course Description

Over the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, cities became the predominant form of human settlement in Canada and the rest of North America. The history of Canada's largest metropolitan centre illustrates many trends in North American urbanization. At the same time, Torontonians have in the recent past claimed a unique status for their city, based in large part on a multicultural and globalized identity as one most ethnically diverse and transnational metropolis in the world. However, Toronto's contemporary self-perception often ignores or rejects its past and sometimes relies on an oversimplified mythology.

This course explores the social, cultural, economic, political and environmental history of Toronto and how that history is remembered, focusing primarily on its industrial and post-industrial urban development in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It will also consider the state of the city and its region(s) in the twenty-first century. This course includes weekly readings, discussions, primary research assignments, field trips, film screenings and digital history projects. Course assignments are heavily based on primary source research done in local libraries and archives in the Greater Toronto Area. This course also provides opportunities for experiential education with digital and public history.

Organization of the Course

The course involves three-hour seminar sessions once per week. These sessions will combine discussion of key concepts and themes from course readings with the view of documentary films and videos, archival research and field trips. **All listed readings are mandatory and essential for the completion of this course. Active oral participation is crucial for success in this course.** Overall, students will focus on three research projects (two in the Fall and one in the Winter).

Readings

Required Textbooks:

Armstrong, Christopher and H.V. Nelles. *The Revenge of the Methodist Bicycle Company: Sunday Streetcars and Municipal Reform in Toronto, 1888-1897*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011 [1977]. ISBN 978-0-19-544337-0

- Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don: An Environmental History of Toronto's Don River Valley*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014. ISBN 9781442612259
- Harris, Richard. *Unplanned Suburbs. Toronto's American Tragedy 1900-1950*. Baltimore & London: John Hopkins University Press, 1996. ISBN 978-0801862823
- Sandberg, Anders L., Stephen Bocking, Colin Coates, and Ken Cruikshank. Eds. *Urban Explorations: Environmental Histories of the Toronto Region*. Hamilton: L.R. Wilson Institute for Canadian History, 2014. ISBN 978-1-926633-66-4
- Sewell, John. *The Shape of the Suburbs: Understanding Toronto's Sprawl*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009. ISBN 978-0-8020-9587-9
- Smyth, William J. *Toronto, the Belfast of Canada: The Orange Order and the Shaping of Municipal Culture*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015. ISBN 9781442614680

In addition to the textbooks this course uses online readings available through our course Moodle site and the York University Library. Readings listed under a particular week should be read by Thursday of that week. Discussions depend upon students having done their readings.

Assignments and Evaluation

The grade for the course will be based on the following percentages:

First Short Assignment (riot map and timeline)	10%
Second Short Assignment (mock heritage plaque)	10%
Long Research Project	50%
Presentation	10%
Participation	20%

1st Short Assignment: Riot Map and Timeline

Due: November 3rd

Students are required to submit a set of geographic, chronologic and other historical data, along with a 250-word text with suggestions for further reading about one riot in Toronto's history. This will feed into a digital historical map and timeline of Toronto's riot history. This assignment is worth 10% of the final grade. Please consult the detailed assignment description available on the course website.

2nd Short Assignment: Mock Heritage Plaque

Due: December 1st

Students are required to submit a mock Heritage Toronto commemorative plaque proposal, which includes a 750-word rationale, a 150-word draft text, and the completion of an application form with additional information. This project is worth 10% of the final grade. Please consult the detailed assignment description available on the course website.

Long Research Project

Due: March 16th

Students are required to complete a 5000-word essay based on primary source research of four addresses (2 residential and 2 non-residential) in a city block over a period of time no shorter than 50 years. They will be asked to draw arguments about Toronto history from their findings supported by the course readings. Sometime in February, students will be asked to meet with the course director during office hours to receive feedback on their progress. This assignment is worth 50% of the final grade. Please consult the detailed assignment description available on the course website.

Presentation

In the final weeks of the course, students must complete an in-class presentation based on the long research project assignment. This presentation will be between 8-10 minutes in length. Please consult the detailed assignment description on the course website.

Course participation

Your active participation in class is essential and will be measured in a variety of ways. Attendance is mandatory and will be taken every class. You must show that you are engaging with course readings and themes by orally contributing thoughtfully to in-class discussions.

Because this course aims to teach students about digital history, students are encouraged to bring internet-connected computing devices to seminar (laptops, tablet computers, smartphones). **These devices should be used exclusively for course relevant purposes.**

All course participation, including in-class discussion and online discussion, must be in compliance with the York University Student Code of Conduct (<http://www.yorku.ca/oscr/pdfs/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf>). In order to ensure this, students should try at all times to be respectful toward one another and toward all faculty and staff. Active and respectful student participation is essential to establishing a productive and engaging learning environment for everyone.

General Rules, Policies and Expectations

Please make sure that all work that you hand in and present for this class is your own. The university takes this issue very seriously. We expect you to be familiar with all of the university policies relating to academic integrity found here: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm> Violations of the York Senate Policy on Academic Honesty – including submitting work written by someone else or submitted in another course, failing to use quotation marks and citations when using or paraphrasing the printed or electronically-transmitted work of others, collaborating on written assignments, cheating during examinations, and aiding or abetting academic misconduct – will be treated severely. Penalties may include failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension from the University, and withholding or rescinding a York degree. For further information, see <http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=69>.

•

The deadline for submitting assignments (printed or via e-mail) is at the beginning of class on the due date. Please double-space all written assignments in standard 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Include your name and the assignment's title at the top of the paper (no separate title pages necessary). All sources should be **credible** and **scholarly** and should be cited, using the Chicago Manual of Style (<http://www.library.yorku.ca/eresolver/?id=996235>), in **footnotes**. You must also provide a properly formatted bibliography for each assignment. Submitting assignments via email is not only allowed but encouraged. When doing so, email the copy as attachment (students are responsible for ensuring document is attached). Do not copy and paste it onto the body of the email. If the student prefers to submit a hard copy of the assignment, do not slide it under the instructor's office door. Assignments placed in the History Department drop box will not be date-stamped and will only be considered received on the date the instructor retrieves the assignment from his mailbox. **Please also keep copies of all drafts and rough work.**

Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized one letter grade per day (i.e., if one day late, an A paper receives a B+) up to a maximum of five days. **After five days, assignments will not be accepted.** We will consider exceptions to the lateness penalty only when they are supported by authoritative written documentation (i.e., a doctor's note) or they can be legitimately substantiated. Students may not request deadline extensions within three days of a due date. All deadline extension requests must be made in writing via email to seminar instructor.

If you have any questions about a mark you received, either during a course or after a course is over, you may approach the course instructor or the Director of Undergraduate Studies for mediation. The Director of Undergraduate Studies does not change grades.

If, at the end of a course, you feel that your grade was not justified, you may submit to the Department a formal written appeal for reappraisal. **Requests for grade reappraisals must be filed with the Department within 21 calendar days of the release of the final grade in the course.** Students may question the marking of specific pieces of work or the overall course grade. Normally, only written work can be reassessed.

When a student asks for a reappraisal, the original grade may be raised, lowered, or confirmed. The decision of the Department may be appealed to the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Executive Committee only on grounds of procedural irregularity or new evidence. Appeals must be submitted within 21 days of notification of the decision of the Department. For more info on Department of History grade reappraisal policy, visit:
http://www.yorku.ca/uhistory/undergraduate/grading_policies.html#appraisals

York University Libraries: Links to the main catalogue, e-resources, on-line help chat line with librarian, and many other research aids: <http://www.library.yorku.ca/web/>

History Help and Mentorship Centre: Help for any student enrolled in a history course (help with writing assignments, research, exam-taking, etc.) from current, full-time history department graduate students. See <http://www.yorku.ca/uhistory/historyhelpandmentorshipcentre/index.html> for more information or email hishelp@yorku.ca for an appointment.

•

The Writing Centre: One-to-one help with a writing instructor on any writing assignment. You will need to enroll to set up your appointment, though they also offer some drop-in sessions. The enrollment link and further information is found at <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/writ/centre/>. Bring a copy of your assignment to your appointment.

SPARK [Student Papers and Academic Research Kit]: On-line tutorial that provides handy tips and tools for understanding and successfully completing university-level assignments. Go to <http://www.yorku.ca/spark/>

Undergraduate History Student Association: <http://www.yorku.ca/uhistory/uhsa.html>

We will accommodate students with disabilities working with the **York University Learning Disability Services** office (<http://lds.info.yorku.ca/>). Please contact the instructor directly to make sure we are informed of your needs. If you will require any kind of accommodation for religious reasons, please let us know as soon as possible. Attendance is otherwise mandatory (see “Course participation” section below).

Email policy: Emails sent to the instructor outside working hours (Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm) will not be read until the following work day. Emails should be courteous and signed with the student’s first and last name.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Review course syllabus and expectations. Instructions for first short assignment.

Week 2: Idealizing Toronto

Thursday, September 15, 2016

- Read: Keenan, Edward. *Some Great Idea: Good Neighbourhoods, Crazy Politics, and the Invention of Toronto*. Toronto: Coach House Books, 2014. Chapter 1 "The Mythology of Toronto" (29-57) [On Moodle]
- Read: Harney, Robert F. "Ethnicity and Neighbourhoods," *Gathering Places: People and Neighbourhoods of Toronto, 1934-1945* (Toronto: Multicultural History Society of Ontario, 1985): 1-24 [On Moodle]
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don: An Environmental History of Toronto's Don River Valley*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2014: Introduction (xv-xxx) [E-book in library: 1 copy]
- Read: Stephen Marche, "Welcome to the new Toronto: the most fascinatingly boring city in the world," *The Guardian*, July 4, 2016, url: https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/jul/04/new-toronto-most-fascinatingly-boring-city-guardian-canada-week?CMP=tw_t_gu

Week 3: Before Toronto

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Field trip: "An Alternate Version of Toronto's Origin Story" walking tour led by First Story Toronto: <http://janeswalk.org/canada/toronto/alternate-version-torontos-origin-story/>

Meet at 4.45pm on the wave deck by the lake at the foot of Spadina St. Walking tour ends at Sloping Sky Mews (at Fort York neighbourhood) at 6.30pm.

- Read: Freeman, Victoria. "Toronto Has No History!" Indigeneity, Settler Colonialism, and Historical Memory in Canada's Largest City," *Urban History Review* 38.2 (Spring 2010): 21-35. [Online through library]
- Read: Johnson, Jon. "The Indigenous Environmental History of Toronto, 'The Meeting Place.'" In *Urban Explorations: Environmental Histories of the Toronto Region*. Edited by L. Anders Sandberg, Stephen Bocking, Colin Coates, and Ken Cruikshank (Hamilton: L.R. Wilson Institute for Canadian History, 2014): 59-69. [On reserve in library]

-
- Watch: "A Sacred Trust": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=be1vfELwshg>

Week 4: Clara Thomas Archives Field Trip

Thursday, September 29, 2016

Tutorial at Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections (Scott Library, Rm 305) from 4pm to 6.30pm

- Check: Clara Thomas Archives and Special Collections fonds register:
<http://www.library.yorku.ca/web/archives/fondsregister/>
- Check: City of Toronto Archives: What's In the Archives:
<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=6df0226b48c21410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>

Week 5: From York to Toronto

Thursday, October 6, 2016

- Read: Armstrong, Frederick H. "Metropolitanism and Toronto Re-Examined, 1825-1850," *Historical Papers of the Canadian Historical Association* 1966: 29-40. [Online through library]
- Read: Sanford, Barbara. "The Political Economy of Land Development in Nineteenth Century Toronto," *Urban History Review* 16.1 (1987): 17-33 [Online through library]
- Read: Atkinson, Logan. "The Impact of Cholera on the Design and Implementation of Toronto's First Municipal By-Laws," *Urban History Review* 30.2 (2002): 3-15 [Online through library]
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*, Chapter 1 "The Colonial River" (3-27) [E-book in library: 1 copy]

Week 6: The Orange Order and Municipal Culture

Thursday, October 13, 2016

- Read: Smyth, William J. *Toronto, the Belfast of Canada: The Orange Order and the Shaping of Municipal Culture* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015). Introduction and Chapters 3-5 (3-10, 75-194) [Purchase]

Week 7: Infrastructure vs. Nature

Thursday, October 20, 2016

-
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*: Chapter 2-3 “Making an Industrial Margin” (28-43) and “Taming a ‘Monster of Ingratitude’” (44-74) [E-book in library: 1 copy]
- Read: Murnaghan, Ann Marie F. “The City, the Country, and Toronto’s Bloor Viaduct, 1897-1919,” *Urban History Review* 42.1 (Fall 2013): 41-50 [Online through library]
- Read: Jones, Elwood and McCalla, Douglas. “Toronto Waterworks, 1840-77: Continuity and Change in Nineteenth-Century Toronto Politics,” *Canadian Historical Review* 60.3 (1979): 300-323. [Online through library]
- Read: McMahon, Michael. “Toronto’s Urban Organic Machines: The R.C. Harris Water Treatment Plant and the Ashbridge’s Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant.” In *Urban Explorations: Environmental Histories of the Toronto Region* (189-208) [On reserve in library]

READING DAYS OCTOBER 27-30

Week 8: Urban Reform

Map and Timeline assignment due

Thursday, November 3, 2016

- Read: Armstrong, Christopher and H.V. Nelles. *The Revenge of the Methodist Bicycle Company: Sunday Streetcars and Municipal Reform in Toronto, 1888-1897* (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2011) [1977]. [On reserve in library]

Week 9: Industrialization and Modernity

Thursday, November 10, 2016

- Read: Walden, Keith. *Becoming Modern in Toronto: The Industrial Exhibition and the Shaping of a Late Victorian Culture*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1997. Introduction, Chapter 1 and Epilogue (3-31; 32-79; 333-339) [[Online through library]

Week 10: Pre-1945 Immigration and Inter-Ethnic Relations

Thursday, November 17, 2016

- Read: Chan, Arlene. *The Chinese in Toronto from 1878: From Outside to Inside the Circle*. Toronto: Dundurn, 2011. Chapter 2 “The Birth of Toronto’s Chinatown, 1885-1922” (23-50) [On Moodle]
- Read: Frager, Ruth. *Sweatshop Strife: Class, Ethnicity, and Gender in the Jewish Labour Movement of Toronto, 1900-1939*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1992. Chapter 1 “A Mound of Ashes in the Golden Land: The Setting” (10-34) [On Moodle]

-
- Read: John Zucchi, *Italians in Toronto: Development of a National Identity 1875-1935*. Montreal-Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1988. Chapter 2 "Settlement" (34-67) [On Moodle]
- Read: Toney, Jared G. "Locating Diaspora: Afro-Caribbean Narratives of Migration and Settlement in Toronto, 1914-1929." *Urban History Review* 38.2 (Spring 2010): 75-87 [Online through library]

In class films: "Violent August: The 1918 Anti-Greek Riots in Toronto" (2009): <http://violentaugust.com/>
& "The Riot at Christie Pits" (1996): <https://vimeo.com/126131655>

Week 11: Women & the Family

Thursday, November 24, 2016

- Read: Purdy, Sean, "This is Not a Company: It is a Cause": Class, Gender and the Toronto Housing Company, 1912-1920." *Urban History Review* 21.2 (March 1993): 75-91 [Online through library]
- Read: Strange, Carolyn. *Toronto's Girl Problem: The Perils and Pleasures of the City, 1880-1930*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1995. Chapter 2-3 (21-88) [Online through library]

Week 12: "Moral Hazards" and the Fringes

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mock Heritage Toronto Plaque assignment due

- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*: Chapter 4 "Refuge and Subsistence in an Urban Borderland (75-112) [E-book in library: 1 copy]
- Read: Sendbuehler, M. P. "Battling 'the bane of our cities': class territory, and the prohibition debate in Toronto, 1877." *Urban History Review* 22.1 (October 1993): 30-48 [Online through library]
- Read: Strange, Carolyn. *Toronto's Girl Problem*, Chapter 4 (89-115) [Online through library]
- Read: Maynard, Steven. "Through a Hole in the Lavatory Wall: Homosexual Subcultures, Police Surveillance, and the Dialectics of Discovery, Toronto, 1890-1930," *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 5.2 (1994): 207-242. [Online through library]

WINTER BREAK

Week 13: The Decline of the Orange Order in Toronto

Thursday, January 5, 2017

- Read: Smyth, William J. *Toronto, the Belfast of Canada*, Chapters 6-7 and Conclusion (195-278) [Purchase]

Week 14: Postwar Immigration

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Field trip: Gallery of the Portuguese Pioneers: <http://galleryoftheportuguese pioneers.com/contact/>

Meet at the Gallery, on 960 St. Clair West (at Oakwood), at 4.45pm

- Read: Iacovetta, Franca. *Such Hardworking People: Italian Immigrants in Postwar Toronto*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1992. Chapters 3, 5 & 6 (52-76, 103-153) [Online through library]
- Read: Miranda, Susana. "Working women, 'Cleaning Ladies': Portuguese Immigrant Women and Domestic Day Cleaning in 1960s and 1970s Toronto." *Portuguese Studies Review* 11.2 (2004): 89-108 [On Moodle]

Week 15: Suburban Sprawl and the Rise of the Metropolis

Thursday, January 19, 2017

- Read: Harris, Richard. *Unplanned Suburbs. Toronto's American Tragedy 1900-1950* (Baltimore & London: John Hopkins University Press, 1996) Chapter 2,9 and Conclusion (21-50, 233-286) [On reserve in library]
- Read: Sewell, John. *The Shape of the Suburbs: Understanding Toronto's Sprawl*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009. Chapter 2 "Toronto in Mid-Century" (12-27) [On reserve in library]

In class film: "Toronto Boom Town." Leslie McFarlane (1951), NFB:

https://www.nfb.ca/film/toronto_boom_town/

Week 16: Metro Toronto and Central Planning

Thursday, January 26, 2017

- Read: Brushett, Kevin. "'People and Government Travelling Together': Community Organization, Urban Planning and the Politics of Post-War Reconstruction in Toronto, 1943-1953," *Urban History Review* 27.2 (1999): 44-58. [Online through library]
- Read: Sewell, John. *The Shape of the Suburbs*. Chapter 3 "Planning for the Future" (30-48) [On reserve in library]
- Read: White, Richard. *Planning Toronto: The Planners, the Plans, their Legacies* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2016) Chapter 2 "Planning the Metropolis" (76-140) [On reserve in library]

In class films: "Farewell Oak Street" (1953): https://www.nfb.ca/film/farewell_oak_street/ & "City Limits" (1971): https://www.nfb.ca/film/city_limits/

Week 17: Public Transit and the Car

Thursday, February 2, 2017

- Read: Sewell, John. *The Shape of the Suburbs*. Chapters 4-5 (50-91) [On reserve in library]
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*, Chapter 6 "Metro Toronto and the Don Valley Parkway" (139-172) [E-book in library: 1 copy]
- Read: Robinson, Danielle. "Modernism at a Crossroad: The Spadina Expressway Controversy in Toronto, Ontario ca. 1960-1971," *Canadian Historical Review* 92.2 (2011): 295-322 [Online through library]

Week 18: Multiculturalism and Racism

Thursday, February 9, 2017

- Read: Siemiatycki, Myer; Rees, Tim; Ng, Roxana; Rahi, Khan, "Integrating Community Diversity in Toronto: On Whose Terms?" *The World in a City*, Paul Anisef & Michael Lanphier (ed.) (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003): 373-76, 392-455 [On Moodle]
- Read: Henry, Frances, *The Caribbean Diaspora in Toronto: Learning to Live with Racism* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1994). Chapter 10 (201-225) [On Moodle]

In class film: "Home Feeling: Struggle for Community" (1983):

https://www.nfb.ca/film/home_feeling_struggle_for_a_community

Week 19: Conservation, Nature, and Recreation

Thursday, February 16, 2017

- Read: Nelles, H.V. "The Islands" In *Urban Explorations: Environmental Histories of the Toronto Region* (271-290) [On reserve in library]
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*, Chapter 5 "Charles Sauriol and the Don Valley Conservation Movement" (113-138) [E-book in library: 1 copy]

READING WEEK FEBRUARY 18-24

Week 20: Counterculture in the 1960s and 1970s

Thursday, March 2, 2017

- Read: Churchill, David S. "American Expatriates and the Building of Alternative Social Space in Toronto, 1965-1977." *Urban History Review* 39.1 (Fall 2010): 31-41 [Online through library]

-
- Read: Henderson, Stuart. "Toronto's Hippie Disease: End Days in the Yorkville Scene, August 1968," *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association* 17.1 (2006): 205-234. [Online through library]
- Read: Henderson, Stuart. "Off the Streets and into the Fortress: Experiments in Hip Separatism at Toronto's Rochdale College, 1968-1975," *Canadian Historical Review* 92.1 (March 2011): 107-133 [Online through library]
- Watch: "The Summer of '67" (1994): https://www.nfb.ca/film/summer_of_67/

Week 21: Amalgamation and the Megacity

Thursday, March 9, 2017

- Read: Sewell, John. *The Shape of the Suburbs*, Chapters 10-11 (192-229) [On reserve in library]

Week 22: Remembering Toronto

*** Long Research Project due***

Thursday, March 16, 2017

- Read: Freedman, Victoria, "Indigenous Hauntings in Settler-Colonial Spaces: The Activism of Indigenous Ancestors in the City of Toronto," *Phantom Pasts, Indigenous Presence: Native Ghosts in American Culture and History* (2011), 209-254 [Online through library]
- Read: Bonnell, Jennifer. *Reclaiming the Don*, Chapter 7 "Remembering the Don" (173-188) [E-book in library: 1 copy]
- Check: Heritage Toronto Plaques and Markers:
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?msa=0&mid=1qawOt5bgYZHZsnod-3lMva38kvE>

Week 23: Research Presentations

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Week 24: Research Presentations

Thursday, March 30, 2017