

Canadian Cities and Canadian Identity



Course Number: CNST 355

Instructor: Dr. Kevin Anderson

Class Location and Time: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 3:00-3:50, ICT 121

Prerequisites: None

Email: kevin.anderson2@ucalgary.ca

Telephone: 403-220-2987

Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:00-2:30

Office Location: SS615

Graduate Assistant: Sam Kerr samuel.kerr1@ucalgary.ca

Course Description:

This course will examine the agency of Canadian cities in the distinct but related processes of identity-formation and nation-building. The class will study relevant political, societal, geographical, and cultural elements of the relationship between cities and identity in Canada as well as paying particular attention to the question of “Who Belongs?” in a modern city and what the answers mean for the constantly evolving definition of national identity. In addition, the course will explore the reality and myth behind the identity of major cities, such as Calgary, Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto, and how representations of said cities are often constructed not just by local boosters but by non-residents from across the nation (and/or beyond), beholden to local and regional narratives rooted in Canadian history and international relations.

Some of the major questions asked and explored are: What, if anything, is distinct about the Canadian city? In addition, what is a (major) city? If largely urban, why has/is Canada often represented as a pastoral paradise? What are the differing political cultures of each major city and why is this so? What anxieties and assumptions does the “hatred” of Toronto represent? Or, the resentment towards Calgary? Is multiculturalism a largely urban phenomenon? If so, what does this mean for the wider Canadian identity? What are the relationships between major cities and the provincial/federal governments and federalism in general? Finally, what are the distinctive aspects of bilingualism and Quebec cities in Canada and what role do they play in the construction of identity? The course will be thematic in nature and will consist of lectures and in-class discussion. Students will use both primary and secondary sources along with less traditional sources, such as popular periodicals, cartoons, movies, TV shows and opinion polls, to investigate these questions.

Course Objectives:

While administered through the Department of History, this course will focus on contemporary subject matter, paying some attention to the historical roots of particular topics, from an interdisciplinary perspective. I aim to encourage students to develop as researchers, communicators and writers, not just in the classroom but in their daily lives. I hope to challenge students to approach contemporary social categories from a more historical and nuanced perspective, countering essentialism, which posits a fixed character to these categories and national cultures, and teleology, which projects a framework of inevitable progress from the past into the present. It is hoped that students will question, and continue to question outside of the class, easy assumptions about not only cities in Canada, but about the wider contemporary world.

Assessment:

All assignments are to be submitted in-class or in the Red Box in the History Department, Sixth Floor, Social Science Building. Alternative submissions (email) must be discussed with the instructor beforehand.

Class Participation, 15%: Participation will be evaluated on the basis of involvement in class discussion through questions distributed by the instructor and answered in student-formed small groups. Attendance is the prerequisite for a high participation grade. Most discussion will take place on Friday classes.

Group Assignment, 25%, due Wednesday, February 13th, 4-5 pages: Students will be assigned groups at random using D2L. Each group will be responsible for preparing an analysis of a topic from a selected list from one of the largest Census Metropolitan Areas in Canada: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa, Calgary, Edmonton, Quebec City, or Winnipeg. The analysis must have a thesis supported by sub-arguments and explore the overall course theme of how cities create their own distinct identity and how, or if, this relates to a generalized Canadian urban experience. Groups must use **at least one** primary, non-scholarly source (news article, statistics, government report) and **at least two** secondary scholarly sources in their analysis.

Students will be given time in class to work on this assignment.

The list of potential topics includes:

Immigration and multiculturalism
Public transportation and/or infrastructure
Municipal politics
Urban Indigenous peoples
Public celebrations
Sports
Crime and policing
Cities and regionalism

Research Essay, 35%, 8-10 pages: This persuasive essay must have a clear thesis (argument) supported by sub-arguments based on evidence gleaned from academic sources and primary sources. Students must use at least **two** primary sources and at least **four** secondary sources. The topic must thematically connect to the major course theme of Canadian cities and Canadian identity, but otherwise, students are free to choose any related topic. Students can submit the essay either on Friday, March 22nd and be guaranteed to have it returned by the last day of classes **or** can submit it on Wednesday, April 3rd and have it returned at the final exam. There will be no difference in the evaluation criteria. April 3rd is the **final** due date.

Students will be given time in class to work on this assignment.

Final Exam, Closed Book, 25%: To be scheduled by the registrar.

Please make sure to provide references in your work. Students may use any citation system they wish, but students must include page numbers in all references. The *History Student's Handbook* may prove useful for citation suggestions and format.

Be sure to provide complete bibliographic information for each source you use. Please note that a paper submitted without references is unacceptable and will receive a mark of zero.

References exist for several reasons: 1) to provide credit where credit is due. 2) to demonstrate that the author is familiar with the existing literature on the subject under study and is in dialogue with this literature 3) to allow the reader to find the material the author is presenting, whether primary or secondary material, and expand the exposure of writers and readers to the seemingly infinite amount of information and 4) to keep the author accountable to the evidentiary record while allowing simultaneously for interpretation and argumentation.

Students are required to keep all research notes and rough drafts for their essays and may be required to hand them in. Keep this material even after the essay has been graded.

All essays must be written in 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced with margins approximately 2.54 cm on the top and bottom of the page and 3.17 cm on the left and right of the page. This is to ensure the standardization of all papers submitted.

All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade in the class. Extensions will be granted on compassionate grounds or because of extenuating circumstances and only after consultation between the student and the instructor.

Late assignments will have a half-letter grade deducted per day, including weekends.

Cell phones must be turned off during class. Laptops are allowed in-class for the purpose of copying notes only.

Required Texts:

All materials will be provided through links on D2L or by the instructor.

Helpful Texts (optional):

The following books and journals are helpful for writing and researching in an academic setting in Canada. They are in no way mandatory for purchase, but may help in finding sources for your essays and/or the composition of your essays.

William Keleher Storey and Towser Jones. *Writing History: A Guide for Canadian Students*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Journal of Canadian Studies

International Journal of Canadian Studies

British Journal of Canadian Studies

American Review of Canadian Studies

Canadian Historical Review

Canadian Encyclopedia (**Note:** if using for your assignments, limit the number of articles from this source, as they are often descriptive and not analytical)

Dictionary of Canadian Biography

statcan.gc.ca

Canada.ca

University of Calgary: Research guides, databases, research help through the library

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

Week One: Friday, January 11th

Welcome, Welcome!

Week Two: Monday, January 14th, Wednesday, January 16th, Friday, January 18th

Introduction to Urban Studies-Studies of Identity-Canadian Studies

Kim England and John Mercer, "Canadian Cities in Continental Context: Global and Continental Perspectives on Canadian Urban Development," in *Canadian Cities in Transition: Local Through Global Perspectives*, eds. Trudi E. Bunting and Pierre Filion, 69-99.

PDF posted on D2L.

Douglas Ivison and Justin D. Edwards, "Introduction: Writing Canadian Cities," in *Downtown Canada: Writing Canadian Cities*, 3-13.

<https://www-deslibris-ca.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ID/419018>

Week Three: Monday, January 21st, Wednesday, January 23rd, Friday, January 25th

The Metropolitan Thesis and "Metropolitanism," or Can Canada be Urban?

Donald Davis, "The 'Metropolitan Thesis' and the Writing of Canadian Urban History," *Urban History Review*, 14 (1985): 95-113.

<https://www-erudit-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/fr/revues/uhr/1985-v14-n2-uhr0779/1017987ar.pdf>

J.M.S. Careless, "The Metropolis and Identity in Canadian Experience," 69-98, in *Frontier and Metropolis: Regions, Cities, and Identities in Canada before 1914*.

<http://ebookcentral.proquest.com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ebooks/reader.action?ppg=86&docID=4671532&tm=1546883879149>

Week Four: Monday, January 28th, Wednesday, January 30th, Friday, February 1st

Icon of Reform, Part I: Jane Jacobs vs. The Fordist City

Richard White, "Jane Jacobs and Toronto, 1968-1978," *Journal of Planning History*, 10 (2011): 114-138.

<https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1177%2F1538513210396293>

Christopher Klemek, "From Political Outsider to Power Broker in Two 'Great American Cities': Jane Jacobs and the Fall of the Urban Renewal Order in New York and Toronto," *Journal of Urban History*, 34 (2008): 309-332.

<https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1177%2F0096144207308669>

Week Five: Monday, February 4th, Wednesday, February 6th, Friday, February 8th

Icon of Reform, Part II: Jane Jacobs vs. The Master Builder

Marshall Berman, *All That is Solid Melts into Air: The Experience of Modernity* (excerpt).

PDF posted on D2L.

Danielle Robinson, "Modernism at a Crossroad: The Spadina Expressway Controversy in Toronto, Ontario, 1960-1971," *Canadian Historical Review* 92 (2011): 295-322.

<http://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rch&AN=60511814&site=ehost-live>

Library session in-class on Wednesday!!!

Week Six: Monday, February 11th, Wednesday, February 13th, Friday, February 15th
Regionalism: The Origins of Calgary

No readings

Group Assignment due in class on Wednesday

Family Day and Term Break. No classes: February 17th-February 24th

Week Seven: Monday, February 25th, Wednesday, February 27th, Friday, March 1st
The Suburbs: Creeping Conformity?

Richard Harris, *Creeping Conformity: How Canada Became Suburban, 1900-1960* (excerpts).
PDF posted on D2L.

Larry McCann, "A Regional Perspective on Canadian Suburbanization: Reflections on Richard Harris' *Creeping Conformity*," *Urban History Review* 35 (2006): 32-45.

<http://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=https://search-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/docview/216513570?accountid=9838>

Week Eight: Monday, March 4th, Wednesday, March 6th, Friday, March 8th
The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth, or Why Does Calgary Have a Stampede and What it Means for all of us

Max Foran, "The Stampede in Historical Context," in ed., Max Foran, *Icon, Brand, Myth: The Calgary Stampede*, 1-20.

<https://www-deslibris-ca.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ID/423006>

Max Foran, "More than Partners: The Calgary Stampede and the City of Calgary," in ed. Foran, *Icon, Brand, Myth*, 147-174.

<https://www-deslibris-ca.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ID/423006>

Week Nine: Monday, March 11th, Wednesday, March 13th, Friday, March 15th
Towards Contemporary Inclusion, Part I: Gender and the City, or What Would a Non-Sexist City Be Like?

Isabel Dyck, "Feminist Geography, the 'Everyday,' and Local-Global Relations: Hidden Spaces of Place-Making," *The Canadian Geographer*, 49 (2005): 233-243.

<http://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=rch&AN=17947072&site=ehost-live>

Dolores Hayden, "What Would a Non-Sexist City be Like? Speculations on Housing, Urban Design and Human Work," *Signs* 5 (1980): 170-187.

<https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/stable/3173814>

Week Ten: Monday, March 18th, Wednesday, March 20th, Friday, March 22nd

Towards Contemporary Inclusion, Part II: The City and Ethnicity, Race and Immigration

Aubrey Kobayashi and Valerie Preston, "International Migration and Immigration: Remaking the Multicultural Canadian City," in eds., Pierre Filion, Markus Moos, Tara Vinodrai and Ryan Walker, *Canadian Cities in Transition: Perspectives for an Urban Age, Fifth Edition*, 129-150.

PDF posted on D2L.

Michael J. Doucet, "The Anatomy of an Urban Legend: Toronto's Multicultural Reputation."

<https://www-deslibris-ca.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/ID/251610>

Early submission date for Research Papers, in class Friday

Week Eleven: Monday, March 25th, Wednesday, March 27th, Friday, March 29th

Towards Contemporary Inclusion, Part III: Disability and the City

Michael J. Prince, "Inclusive City Life: Persons with Disabilities and the Politics of Difference," *Disabilities Studies Quarterly*, 28 (2008):

<http://dsq-sds.org/article/view/65/65>

Madeline Burghardt, "Containment, Conformity: Families, Institutions and the Limits of Imagination," *Canadian Journal of Disability Studies* 5 (2016): 43-72.

<http://cjds.uwaterloo.ca/index.php/cjds/article/view/249>

Week Twelve: Monday, April 1st, Wednesday, April 3rd, Friday, April 5th

City Politics: How Do Cities (Calgary and Toronto) Govern Themselves?

No readings

Final due date for Research Papers, in class Wednesday

Week Thirteen: Monday, April 8th, Wednesday, April 10th, Friday, April 12th

Catching up and exam review

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. 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/>.

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
90–100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85–89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
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>
- Registration Changes and Exemption Requests: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>.

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