



**Canadian Studies (CNST) 591  
Senior Seminar in Canadian Studies  
Winter 2016  
Wednesday 2:00-4:45pm**

**Instructor:** Dr. Paul Stortz

**Office:** SS 618

**Email:** [pjstortz@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pjstortz@ucalgary.ca)

**Instructor's Website:** <https://hist.ucalgary.ca/manageprofile/profiles/paul-stortz>

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday, 2:00-3:00pm

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**Course Description**

This inquiry-based research and reflexive seminar examines Canada both a tangible, physical jurisdiction and an interpretive idea that is constructed through historical, cultural, social, intellectual, political, demographic, ethnic, educational, economic, environmental, and gendered forces. Canada is perceived by individuals and agencies according to pluralistic and complex perspectives, and this course will discuss these intersecting negotiated outlooks through interdisciplinary study. What are the subjective definitions of Canada, and how have they changed over time up until today? How are Canada and Canada's identities continually and contextually formed and reformed? We explore the concepts and practices that help shape notions of nationhood and citizenship in Canada by problematizing the time, spaces, and places we inhabit and how we come to diverse understandings of this country and the world around us.

This course critically investigates Canada through readings, lectures, research, and discussion on important contemporary and historical concepts. To situate the student in the field of Canadian Studies and larger practices of research and intellectual pursuit, introductory lectures will look at the meanings of academic study in the modern and historical Canadian university. As well, discussion will examine the essential tools of the aspiring academic including structured research techniques, handling of source material, clear and effective writing, critical thinking, argumentation skills and informal logic, identification of logical fallacies, and avenues of scholarly publication.

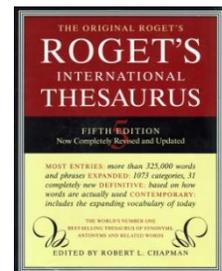
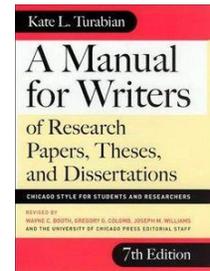
## Textbooks and Readings

1. Paul Stortz, "Inquiries Into Canadian Studies" (seventh edition, 2009; 63pp.). This is available from the instructor.
2. The bulk of the reading for this course is articles available on-line though the university digital library.



## Not Required to Purchase but Highly Recommended Reading and Research Tools

1. Formatting manuals are available in the bookstore and on-line. Chicago, MLA, or APA are acceptable. Consistent and accurate formatting style is fundamental to the writing components of this course.



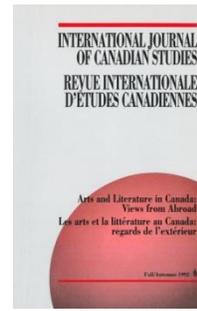
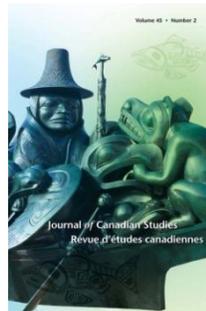
2. *Funk & Wagnalls Canadian College Dictionary*.

Toronto: Fitzhenry and Whiteside; *Oxford English Dictionary* (latest editions if consulting hardcopy formats).

3. *The Original Roget's International Thesaurus* (latest edition). New York: Harper Collins.

4. Canadian-based media, for example *The Globe and Mail*; *Calgary Herald*; CBC's *The National*; *CBC Radio*; *CTV News*; *Global TV*

5. *Journal of Canadian Studies* and other applicable disciplinary peer-reviewed journals. Consulting works in peer-reviewed academic journals (available on-line via library website, or in print in the library) is required in this course.

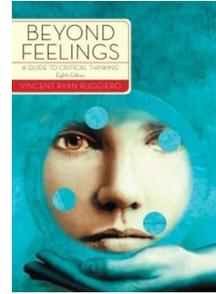
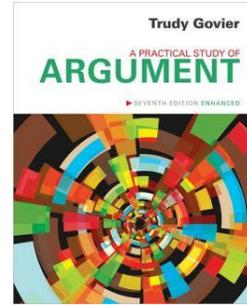
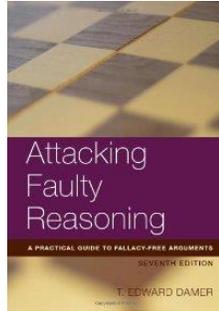


6. *The Canadian Global Almanac*; *Canadian Encyclopedia*

7. Association of Canadian Studies website <http://www.acs-aec.ca/>; various Government of Canada ministry websites

8. **University of Calgary Library Canadian Studies Research Guide**  
<http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/canadianstudies>; and **Archives Guide:**  
<http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/cnst201archivesguide>

9. Books on critical thinking and informal logic. Examples include: T. Edward Damer, *Attacking Faulty Reasoning: A Practical Guide to Fallacy-Free Arguments*, latest edition (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning/Nelson Education Ltd.); Vincent Ryan Ruggiero, *Beyond Feelings: A Guide to Critical Thinking*, latest edition (New York:



McGraw-Hill); Brooke Noel Moore and Richard Parker, *Critical Thinking*, latest edition (New York: McGraw-Hill); Trudy Govier, *A Practical Study of Argument* (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 2009).

### **Thinking and Writing Skills**

Students are required to concentrate on their thinking and writing skills while engaged in the contextual and academic analysis of the ideas and foundations of Canada. The instructor may be consulted on questions relating to writing, presentation, critical thinking, and argumentation skills. Course participants must become familiar with “Inquiries Into Canadian Studies.” All assignments require the use of informal argumentation and argumentative structure, and must follow “Inquiries” precisely. Resources for improving writing skills are available at the university Writing Centre, 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Visit the website for more details: [www.efwr.ucalgary.ca](http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca)

### **Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

The schedule of lectures and readings is available for download on Desire2Learn, and will be discussed in the first week of class.

### **Assignments and Evaluation**

Students must keep a copy of each submitted assignment and be able to produce it immediately if requested. Assignments cannot be submitted via email. Unless otherwise arranged with the instructor, assignments are considered officially submitted only when they are received by the instructor in hardcopy form. All assignments will be based on the material covered in lectures, assigned readings, handouts, “Inquiries Into Canadian Studies,” and in-class discussion. Demonstrated knowledge of the topics covered will be graded according to depth and breadth of analysis, perception, research, and expression of the material. Following the research and writing guidelines discussed in “Inquiries Into Canadian Studies” and in an accepted formatting/style manual (APA, MLA, or Chicago/Turabian) are required for structuring and arguing all qualitative responses throughout the course. Not following the instructions and details of these reference materials will result in a negative assessment on any course components or assignments.

Evaluation will also take into consideration clarity of thought and presentation. The final mark on the assessed components of this course will be affected negatively by improper grammar and organization, lack of clarity, poor spelling and presentation, incomplete or faulty sentence and paragraph structures, use of ghost subjects, lack of detail and substantiation in the argument, and lack of proper argumentation. All of these items are the *sine qua non* for expressing thoughts and analysis on concepts discussed in Canadian Studies.

All assignments are due in class on the due date (see Policy for Late Assignments, below).

### **Evaluation Breakdown**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>Presentation and Leading of Discussion A</b>	25%	TBD in class
<b>Presentation and Leading of Discussion B</b>	15%	TBD in class
<b>Attendance and Participation*</b>	20%	throughout the term
<b>CommonPlace Book</b>	40%	18 April

\*Participation is an important and required component of this course. Participation includes the critical expression of knowledge and discussion of all assigned readings for each class, as well as insight and arguments pertinent to discussion and lecture topics. A handout that explains the participation mark is available on the course D2L.

Adherence to classroom etiquette is vital. Talking in class while the lecture, presentations, and related discussions are conducted is unacceptable, and will reflect negatively on the participation mark. Among the main arguments for this is that it disrupts the intellectual culture of the class and disturbs your student colleagues. Food and (non-alcoholic) drink are allowed, cell phones must be turned off.

Please note that hardcopies or electronic copies of class lectures, slides, and notes are not available on D2L or through the instructor.

► If ALL assignments are NOT completed in the course, the final grade will be assessed a "F."

**Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No.**

### **Policy for Late Assignments and Assignments Submitted Outside of Class**

All assignments are due on the due date. Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized a loss of grade (e.g., B to a B-) for each day late. If assignments are not submitted directly to the instructor, a (red) drop box is available outside of the main office in the history department, SS656. Do not hand in papers to the front desk of SS656 — use the red box only. If submitting an assignment outside of class, please ensure that the instructor's name and course number are clearly indicated on the front page. The box is emptied daily at 8:30am and 4:00pm, stamped with that day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox. Any assignments handed in after 4:00pm will be collected the following workday and stamped with that day's date and be considered late. The papers are not time stamped. To be fair to members of the class who meet assignment deadlines, course workload or computer problems are not acceptable reasons for late submissions. Late assignments due to health reasons must be accompanied by a stamped physician's note explaining clearly the reasons for the missed deadline.

Assignments submitted after the stipulated time and day of submission will be graded but without written comments.

### **Grading Scale**

Letter Grade	Percentage Grade	GPA	Description
A+	90-100%	4.0	Outstanding
A	85-89%	4.0	Excellent, superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A-	80-84%	3.7	
B+	77-79%	3.3	
B	73-76%	3.0	Good, clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete
B-	70-72%	2.7	
C+	67-69%	2.3	

C	63-66%	2.0	Satisfactory, basic understanding of subject matter
C-	60-62%	1.7	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation
D+	56-59%	1.3	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	50-55%	1.0	Minimal Pass, marginal performance
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail, unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements

Note: for the official grade on any assignment or examination, a “F” is calculated as zero percent.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

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,” 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*.

### **Use of Internet and Electronic Communication Devices**



During class, cell phones must be turned off. To promote the full academic freedom of class participants that includes the free and unimpeded intellectual exchange of knowledge, arguments, ideas, and information, and to protect copyright of course material, **audio or visual recording of lectures, discussions, presentations, or media including PowerPoint slides is**

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**prohibited. Unauthorized recording of lectures and discussions is a serious academic offense and is included in the university calendar under the definition of “Academic Misconduct.”** Please note that use of laptops for other than typing lecture, discussion, and presentation notes is distracting for colleagues nearby.

### **Ethics**

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. **You cannot conduct interviews of any kind for the explicit purposes of research for this course unless you consult with the instructor first.** For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, see the University of Calgary Research Ethics site: <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/for-researchers/ethics>

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

This course is conducted in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). As one consequence, students must identify themselves on all assignments and the examination by placing their name on the front page and their ID number. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

### **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 coursepack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books in the library reserve room. For more information on the University of Calgary’s copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

### **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

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

If you have a question, but not sure where to start, the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns. For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at 403-220-5881 or visit their office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Writing Support Services**

Students are required to concentrate on their thinking and writing skills while engaged in the contextual and academic analysis of Canada. The instructor may be consulted on questions relating to writing, presentation, critical thinking, and argumentation skills. All assignments require the use of informal argumentation and argumentative structure. Students must become familiar with “Inquiries Into Canadian Studies.” 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 such as grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure, but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

If you need help formulating a thesis statement, about the proper use and formatting of footnotes, or want to ask someone about your written assignment for this or any other Canadian Studies class, besides seeking out the guidance of the instructor, the Department of History offers small-group and individual writing support from some of our top graduate students for all students registered in a History class. Canadian Studies students are more than welcome to seek this support. Check with your instructor for the scheduled weekly drop-in times, sign-up for one of the writing workshops, or arrange to meet with our writing tutors individually. More information about this program will be posted on the Department of History web site: [hist.ucalgary.ca](http://hist.ucalgary.ca). 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. 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).

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction**

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) 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.

**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).

Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333

**Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:**

Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

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>