



Campus Security (220-5333)

Department of History

Historical Studies 357, Fall 2021

Wild West - Mild West; A Comparative History of the Frontier Period in the Canadian and American Wests

Fall Session 2021

Instructor: Dr. Warren Elofson

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Class Times: TuTh 11:00 – 12:15

Room: SB 148

Office Hours: MWF 1:00 – 2:00

Zoom or email (elofson@ucalgary.ca).

This course will introduce students to frontier society in the Prairie West of Canada and the United States during the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The approach will emphasize special topics of major concern to social and economic development. The course will be conducted as a combination lecture/seminar. The seminar part of the course will centre on regular student discussion of subjects presented in class lectures.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

1. Display an advanced comprehension of issues related to the history of Modern Britain.
2. Critically assess some major scholarly works in the field as well as their colleagues' writings.
3. Do, write up and present original research.

Guides:

The History Student's Hand Book; A Short Guide to Writing History Essays,
<https://hist.ucalgary.ca/>

Elofson, Warren, *Frontier Cattle Ranching in the Land and Times of Charlie Russell* (University of Calgary, Open Access)

Early Newspapers in Canada and the United States

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/>
<https://newspaperarchive.com/>

Outline of Lecture Topics:

All lectures will be on the D2L in PowerPoint.

1. Frontierism and General Interpretations
2. Early Agricultural Settlements
3. Interest in the Agricultural Potential of the Canadian/American West
4. Ranching
5. Homesteading
6. The Wheat Economy
7. Immigration and Settlement
8. Evolution of Prairie Agriculture
9. Women on the Western Frontier
10. Rural Social Reform
11. The Rise of the Co-operatives
14. The Progressive Revolt
15. The "Dirty Thirties" and the Great Depression
16. Responses to the Depression
17. The Post-World War II Era

Course Requirements:

Your final grade will be based on class participation, group discussions, and two book assessments.

These will be weighted as follows:

Group Discussions 30%

Class will be divided into groups of five to seven students for discussions every third class (in lieu of a lecture). Dr. Elofson will articulate the topic to be discussed under the group discussion heading on the D2L.

Each person in the group will provide a statement in relation to the topic at hand at the beginning of each discussion. Then the group will proceed to a general discussion of the topic at hand.

One person will act as the scribe and write out the other group members' important comments and conclusions. The discussion will be marked each week. All group members will alternate as scribe.

Class participation 10%

Based on each student's contributions to group discussions.

Book Assessment due 28 October 2021, 30%

Book Assessment due 9 December 2021, 30%

The book assessments should be 4 to 6 pages double spaced. It will involve articulation of the author's central thesis or objective in writing the book, a summary of the evidence she/he uses to support their thesis and your final overall assessment of the book.

Quality book assessments written by previous students will be posted on the D2L.

Please choose your books from the list below.

Writing style, submission format, and citations for both assignments should follow Part IV of the Handbook. Use footnotes or endnotes as your method of citation (do not use parenthetical referencing).

There is a D2L site for this course that contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; a microphone and speaker (built-in or external or headset); current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; broadband internet connection.

I am committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all registered students. If you have conditions or circumstances that require accommodations, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and to contact me by email or during office hours to discuss reasonable measures that will ensure your success in this course. Such accommodation may include disability (physical or mental wellness, whether visible or not), the need to nurse or occasionally bring a child to class, the wish to be called a different name or pronoun, assistance with writing, or adjusting deadlines because of personal circumstances.

Part of creating an inclusive learning environment involves respecting your fellow classmates. In meeting any university's mandate of encouraging free and open inquiry, we will occasionally discuss topics about which you might be uncomfortable or have a set viewpoint. In such situations, it is essential that we understand that others share different experiences and perspectives, and that listening respectfully to and showing tolerance toward opposing viewpoints is part of the process of emerging as active, engaged citizens.

To protect the privacy of others, students may not record in any format any activity that occurs within the classroom or online. Permission to record lectures will only be given to students registered with Student Accessibility Services. All material in this course, including but not limited to lectures, are under the protection of copyright and may not be distributed to third parties under any circumstances.

Learning Technologies Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course that contains relevant class resources and materials. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; access to a broadband internet connection.

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the [Arts Students Centre](#) (ASC).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact [Enrolment Services](#)

- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see the [Registration Changes and Exemption Requests](#) page.

Attention history majors: *History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.*

Writing

All written assignments are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in [The History Student's Handbook](#).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#) for more details, but to summarize, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- 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, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

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 Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, [Section K: Integrity and Conduct](#).

Academic Accommodations

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in the [Student Accommodation Policy](#).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, 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. 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 consult books on reserve at the library. Please see the [University of Calgary copyright page](#).

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the [sexual violence policy](#).

Other Useful Information

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

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Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Reading List (those marked with * are suitable for the book assessment).

- *Abbott, E.C., *We Pointed Them North; Recollections of a Cowpuncher*
- *Anderson, J.L., *Industrializing the Corn Belt; Agriculture, Technology, and Environment, 1945 – 1972*#
- Anderson, Charles W., *Grain, the Entrepreneurs*
- *Baker, W.M., *The Mounted Police and Prairie Society, 1873-1919*
- *Baron, Don, *Canada's Great Grain Robbery*
- *Beahen, William and Stan Horral, *Redcoats on the Prairies*#
- *Belich, James, *Replenishing the Earth; the Settler Revolution and the Rise of the Anglo-World, 1783 - 1913*
- Bell, Edward, *Social Classes & Social Credit*
- *Binnema, Theodore, *Common and Contested Ground; a Human and Environmental History of the Northwestern Plains*#
- *Blanchard, Jim, *Winnipeg 1912*
- *Breen, David, *The Canadian Prairie West and the Ranching Frontier, 1874-1924*
- *Bregent-Heald, *Borderland Films; American Cinema, Mexico, and Canada during the Progressive Era*
- *Broadfoot, Barry, *Years of Sorrow, Years of Shame; the Story of Japanese in World War II*
- *Burton, Antoinette, *The Trouble with Empire*
- *Carey, Hilary, *God's Empire*
- *Carter, Sarah, *Lost Harvests*
- *Carter, Sarah, *Capturing Women; the Manipulation of Cultural Imagery in Canada's Prairie West*#
- Carter, Sarah et. al., *Unsettled Pasts; Reconceiving the West through Women's History*
- *Banack, Clark, *God's Province; Evangelical Christianity, Political Thought, and Conservatism in Alberta*#
- *Colley, Linda, *Captives*
- *Cunfer, G., *On the Great Plains; Agriculture and Environment*#
- *Colpitts, George, *Game in the Garden*
- *Colpitts, George, *The Pemmican Empire*#
- *J.E. Rea, *T.A. Crerar; a Political Life*
- *Crosby, Alfred W., *Ecological Imperialism*#
- *Dale, Edward Everett, *The Range Cattle Industry: Ranching on the Great Plains from 1865 to 1925*, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1960#

*Daschuk, James, *Clearing the Plains; Disease, Politics of Starvation and the Loss of Aboriginal Life*

den Otter, Andy A., *Civilizing the West; the Galts and the development of western Canada*

*Derry, Margaret E., *Horses in Society; a Story of Animal Breeding and Marketing Culture, 1800 - 1920*

Dick, Lyle, *Farmers Making Good*

*Eamon, Michael, *Imprinting Britain; Newspapers, Sociability, and the Shaping of British North America*

*Edwards, Richard, Jacob K. Friefeld and Rebecca S. Wingo, *Homesteading the Plains, Toward a New History*

*Egan, Timothy, *The Worst Hard Times*#

*Elliott, David and Iris Miller, *Bible Bill*

Elofson, Warren, *Cowboys, Gentlemen and Cattle Thieves; Ranching on the Western Frontier*

*Elofson, Warren, *Frontier Cattle Ranching in the Land and Times of Charlie Russell*

*Elofson Warren, *Somebody Else's Money; the Walrond Ranch Story, 1883 - 1907*

*Elofson, Warren, *So Far and Yet So Close; Frontier Cattle Ranching in Western Prairie Canada and the Northern Territory of Australia*

Elofson, Warren and Clay Chattaway, *The Rocking P Gazette in Western Canadian Ranching History*

<http://contentdm.ucalgary.ca/cdm/landingpage/collection/rpg>

*Emery, George, *The Methodist Church on the Prairies, 1896 - 1914*

*Erickson Lesley, *Westward Bound; Sex, Violence, the Law, and the Making of a Settler Society*#

*Evans, Sterling, *Bound in Twine; the History and Ecology of the Henequen-Wheat Complex for Mexico and the American and Canadian Plains, 1880 - 1950*

Evans, Sterling, ed. *The Borderlands of the American and Canadian Wests; Essays on Regional History of the Forty-Ninth Parallel*

*Evans, Simon, *The Bar U and Canadian Ranching History*

Flavell, Julie, *When London was Capital of America*, New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2010.

*Foran, Max, *Trails and Trials; Markets and Land Use in Alberta Beef Cattle Industry, 1881 - 1948*

- Francis, Douglas and Chris Kitzan, *The Prairie West as Promised Land*.
- Friesen, Gerald, *The Canadian Prairies: A History*
- *Fry, John, *The Farm Press, Reform, and Rural Change, 1895 – 1920*#
- *Goodwyn, Lawrence, *The Populist Moment: A Short History of the Agrarian Revolt in America*#
- *Gray, James, *Men Against the Desert*#
- *Handy-Marchello, B., *Women of the Northern Plains: Gender and Settlement on the Homestead Frontier, 1870 1930*#
- *Hall, D.J., *From Treaties to Reserves; the Federal Government and Native Peoples in Territorial Alberta, 1870 - 1905*
- *Hofstadter, Richard, *Social Darwinism in American Thought*.
- *Jones, David C., *Empire of Dust*#
- *Jordan, T.G., *North American Cattle-Ranching Frontiers; Origins, Diffusion and Differentiation*
- Kelly, L.V., *The Range Men: The Story of the Ranchers and Indians of Alberta*
- *Kinnear, Mary, *A Female Economy: Women's Work in a Prairie Province, 1870 - 1970* #
- Klassen, Henry, *A Business History of Alberta*
- * Limerick, Patricia Nelson, *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*, New York: Norton, 1988#
- *Lipset, Seymour M., *Agrarian Socialism*
- * Lansing, Michael, *Insurgent Democracy: the Nonpartisan League in North American Politics* #
- Macleod, R.C., *The North-West Mounted Police and Law Enforcement, 1873-1905*
- *McManus, S., *The Line Which Separates; Race Gender, and the Making of the Alberta-Montana Borderlands*#
- *Malin, James C., *History and Ecology; Studies of the Grassland*
- Marchildon, Gregory, ed. *Agricultural History; History of the Prairie West Series*
- Marchildon, Gregory, ed., *Business and Industry; History of the Prairie West Series*
- *Merchant, Carolyn, *Reinventing Eden; the Fate of Nature in Western Culture*.
- *Miner, Craig, *Next Year Country; Dust to Dust in Western Kansas, 1890 – 1940*
- *Mosby, Ian, *Food Will Win the War; the Politics, Culture, and Science of Food on Canada's Home Front*
- *Myres, Sandra, *Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1800 – 1915*
- *Nash Smith, Henry, *Virgin Land: the American West as Symbol and Myth*

- *Neth, M., *Preserving the Family Farm; Women, Community, and the Foundations of Agribusiness in the Midwest, 1900 – 1940*
- *Nettelbeck, Amanda, Russell Smandych, Louis A. Knafla, and Robert Fraser, *Fragile Settlements; Aboriginal Peoples, Law, and Resistance in South-West Australia and Prairie Canada*
- *Olson, Paul, *The Struggle for the Land*
- *Osgood, Ernest Staples, *The Day of the Cattleman*
- *Palmer, Howard, *Patterns of Prejudice; a history of Nativism in Alberta*
- Palmer, Howard, ed., *The Settlement of the West*
- *Randall, I.F., *A Lady's Ranch Life in Montana*
- *Ray, Arthur J., *Aboriginal Rights Claims and the Making and Remaking of History,*
- *Rea, J.E., *T.A. Crerar, a Political Life*
- *Rennie, Bradford, *The Rise of Agrarian Democracy; the United Farmers and Farm Women of Alberta, 1909 - 1921*
- *Reynolds, Henry, *The Other Side of the Frontier; Aboriginal Resistance to the European Invasion of Australia*
- * Robertson, Heather, *Salt of the Earth: The Story of the Homesteaders in Western Canada*
- *Russell, Peter A., *How Agriculture Made Canada; Farming in the Nineteenth Century*
- *Said, Edward, *Culture and Imperialism*, New York: Vintage Books, 1994
- Slatta, R. *Comparing Cowboys and Frontiers*
- *Silverman, Eliane L., *The Last Best West: Women on the Alberta Frontier, 1880-1930*
- *Stewart, Walter, *Tommy: the life and politics of Tommy Douglas*, Toronto: McArthur & Company, 2003
- *Storey, Kenton, *Settler Anxiety at the Outposts of Empire; Colonial Relations, Humanitarian Discourses, and the Imperial Press*
- *Voisey, Paul, *High River and the Times#*
- *Voisey, Paul, *Vulcan: the Making of a Prairie Community*
- *White, Courteney, *Revolution on the Range; the Rise of a New Ranch in the American West*
- *Wetherell, Donald G., *Wild Life Land and People; A Century of Change in Prairie Canada*
- *Wise, Michael D., *Producing Predators; Wolves, Work and Conquest in the Northern Rockies*
- *Worster, Donald, *Dust Bowl, the Southern Plains in the 1930s*

*Worster, Donald, *Nature's Economy; A History of Ecological Ideas*

*Zhiqiu Lin, *Policing the Wild North-West; A Sociological Study of the Provincial Police in Alberta and Saskatchewan, 1905-32*