

# JUG320H1F - THE CANADIAN WILDERNESS

Fall Term 2017  
Thursdays, 12-2pm, SS 2125

## **Instruction**

Course Instructor: Nicole Latulippe  
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## **Course Description**

The idea of wilderness permeates narratives of Canada and Canadian national identity, and yet the Canadian landscape reveals a competing discourse of dispossession and containment. In this course, we will explore at least three areas: one, historical and contemporary narratives about wilderness and related ideas about the north, environment, and natural resources; two, how these representations are materialized through conservation, natural resource management, planning, reserves, land claims, tourism, and other policy areas; and three, meaningfully consider alternative perspectives about and relations with land in Canada. As we challenge powerful and widely held constructs about an untouched and uninhabited Canadian wilderness, in this course we will employ critical interdisciplinary and Indigenous theories.

## **Course Objectives**

In this course we will:

1. Critically examine wilderness and related concepts and their discursive and material articulations;
2. Identify the work of wilderness to constructions of Canadian national identity and social-economic-political formations;
3. Engage Indigenous perspectives about land, resources, and the renewal of relationships; that is, between nations and with the land; and
4. Hone critical reading, careful research, and clear, effective, and analytical writing skills.

## **Course Format**

This course will include lectures and class discussions. All readings are essential to this course and your attendance at all class meetings is expected. Lectures will be supplemented by video, film clips, and by guest speakers. PowerPoint slides are presentation aids only; they will not contain all of the required information. Assigned readings should be completed before class.

## **Blackboard**

All course materials, including syllabus, assignments, readings and other supplementary materials will be available on Blackboard: <https://portal.utoronto.ca/>. The course instructor will frequently post materials on Blackboard, so students should check the course site regularly.

## **Communication**

Conduct as much course business in person before or after class. You are encouraged to ask questions in class, visit office hours, and to be in contact with each other. You may email the instructor with brief yes/no type questions for which you cannot otherwise find answers on the course syllabus, assignment guidelines, Blackboard, or each other. Emails must be through your utoronto.ca address. Please do not expect an immediate reply, but every effort will be made to get back to you within 48 hours (weekends not included). Email correspondence should have JUG320 identified in the subject heading. Assignments will **not** be accepted by email. Finally, students should check their utoronto email regularly for communications through Blackboard.

## **Assignment and Evaluation Scheme**

Reading Responses (two)	DUE: September 28; and November 16	10% (5% each)
Participation		5%
AGO Evaluation	DUE: October 26	20%
Research Essay	DUE: November 30	30%
Final Exam	December Examination Period	35%

**All written assignments are due at the beginning of class, in hard copy, on the day specified.**

## **Reading Responses**

These short, low stakes writing assignments will encourage careful and critical reading, and provide an opportunity to improve your writing. Ultimately, they will prepare you to write similar analyses in later assignments. More information will be provided in class.

## **AGO Evaluation**

For this assignment, you are required to visit (on your own time) specific works at the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO). You will compare and contrast the narrative depicted in two artistic works, to be assigned by the course instructor and explained in class. The works will be part of the AGO's Canadian Collection, including those by the Group of Seven and contemporary First Nations artists, and also the contemporary exhibition, titled, *Every. Now. Then: Reframing Nationhood*. At the heart of the contemporary exhibition is "the belief that Canada is a dynamic work in progress anchored by strong Indigenous voices and a complexity of cultures and identities". With a specific focus on discourses of the Canadian wilderness, you will write an essay of three to four pages (750-1000 words). To link this assignment to course content, you will draw on at least **three** course readings. You are not required to consult materials other than the assigned readings. An important goal of this assignment is to ensure that concepts covered in class are understood and that students are able to critically apply them. \*Note: Admission is **FREE** on Wednesdays between 6-9pm. See other admission promotions at: <http://www.ago.net/how-to-visit-for-free>

## **Participation**

You will contribute to the learning environment in this course by making small but important contributions frequently during class over the course of the term. Again, more information will be provided in class.

### **Research Essay**

A selection of possible essay topics will be provided early in the course, but students are encouraged to select their own topic as long as it engages with the themes of the course. All students will prepare a final research essay of about eight pages (2000 words). The research essay is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their ability to critically reflect on the course materials while also undertaking independent research.

### **Final Exam**

The final exam will be a comprehensive, 3-hour examination that covers all the course materials: course readings, course lectures, film clips, and guest presentations. The exam format may consist multiple choice, short answers and essay questions. If you miss the exam for any reason you must file a formal petition with FAS:

<http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Rules & Regulations.html>

### **Late Policy**

There is a penalty of 5% per day (weekends count as one day) for late assignments. Assignments submitted on the due date, but not at the beginning of the lecture period, will be penalized by 2%. Late assignments will **not** be accepted after one week. Late assignments should be submitted to the Department of Geography and Planning's drop box on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Sidney Smith, Room 5047 (or to the course instructor in class or during office hours). Note that assignments are date stamped at the **end** of the working day. This means that any assignments submitted to the 'after hours' drop box outside the main office doors will be date stamped at the end of the *next day* the office is open again. Contact the course instructor if you need to submit your assignment early, as anything submitted to the department, *even on the deadline*, will be marked late.

### **Missed Assignments**

Extensions will be granted only in the case of documented illness

(<http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca/>) or personal emergency. If a personal emergency arises that may prevent you from submitting your assignment on time, immediately contact your College Registrar. Without proper documentation for missing an assignment or exam you will receive a grade of zero.

### **Concerns about Grading**

Questions about assignment marking and course grades are best addressed in person during office hours or by appointment. Requests for re-marking, made either in person or by email, must identify specific concerns and be made within **two weeks** of the date of the assignment's return to you. Be sure to keep your graded assignments and keep all your notes and drafts until after the final course marks are recorded.

### **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is an academic offense. It involves, but is not limited to, quoting or paraphrasing the work of an author (including fellow students) without proper citation, and submitting work for which credit has already been obtained, or is being sought. It is your responsibility to understand and adhere to the following policies: <http://life.utoronto.ca/get-smarter/academic-honesty/>.

"How not to plagiarize" can be located on the university's writing web site, at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

### **Support for Writing and Other Academic Skills**

University College has an excellent Writing Centre that is open to all UC students and students enrolled in courses sponsored by UC college programs (including JUG320). They provide individual instruction in intensive 50-minute consultations. Appointments can be made online: <http://www.utoronto.ca/ucwriting/>. Information about the university's other writing centres can be found here: <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/>.

In addition, English Language Learning offers support to students whose first language is not English, as well as those who consider English their first language but find academic English challenging and want to improve their skills. In either case, you can find assistance here: <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>.

Support for other academic skills, such as research, reading, studying, note taking, citing, etc, can be obtained from: Robarts Library research & reference services (book an appointment, online chat, or walk-in to a reference desk): <https://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/ask>, and the Academic Success Centre: <http://www.asc.utoronto.ca/>.

### **Recording Lectures**

Taking photos or videos of lectures is not permitted. Audio recording are not permitted unless prior permission is granted from the course instructor, or students have accommodation needs. Since audio recordings are permitted under these circumstances, some students *may* record your voice during lecture. Please speak with the course instructor if this is of concern to you.

### **Accessibility**

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you require accommodations for a disability, have accessibility concerns about the course, classroom, or course materials, or would like information about services and procedures, consult the Accessibility Services website <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/> or email them at [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca). You are not required to do so but are welcome to see the course instructor about the accessibility of the learning environment.

**Mental Health and Well-Being:** Your College Registrar provides holistic academic advising, addressing personal, financial, medical, and familial issues that may interfere with academic work. Counselling and Psychological Services are also available: <http://caps.utoronto.ca/main.htm>.

### **Teaching Assistance**

Bronwyn Clement is a MA student in Human Geography whose research interests focus on public space, urban parks, and commons. Her current work examines how city park uses are regulated and enforced, specifically in regards to cruising and public sex. Other research is focused on human-wildlife interactions in the GTA, with a focus on coyotes. Bronwyn is from Toronto though spent many years living on the coast of Maine, across the road from Acadia National Park.

### **Drop Date**

The last date to drop courses with an F section code from your academic record without penalty is **Monday November 6, 2017**.

## **Course Schedule and Required Readings**

- September 7:            1. Introductions
- September 14:         2. What is Wilderness?  
The Trouble with Wilderness — William Cronon  
Making a Modern Wilderness — Tina Loo
- September 21:         3. The Great White North  
Fortress in the Wilderness – M Nourbese Philip et al  
Temagami’s Tangled Wild – Jocelyn Thorpe
- September 28:         4. Tourists and Tourism  
The Group of Seven and the Tourist Landscape — Lynda Jessup  
Where the Mountain Men Meet – Catriona Sandilands  
**READING RESPONSE DUE**
- October 5:              5. Bounding Wild Space  
Legalities of Nature – Renisa Mawani  
Untouched and Uninhabited — Katherine Sinclair
- OCTOBER 12:         NO CLASS**
- October 19:            6. Sacred Great Lakes Landscapes  
Respecting and Protecting the Sacred (to page 35) – Darlene Johnston  
Considerations for Protecting Water in Ontario – Deborah McGregor
- October 26:            7. Regulating Resources  
The Role of the Natural Resources Regulatory Regime in Aboriginal Rights  
disputes in Ontario – Jean Teillet  
**AGO EVALUATION DUE**
- November 2:            8. Wilderness and Resource Extraction  
Saving Clayoquot — Bruce Braun  
Discourses in and about Clayoquot Sound — Umeek of Ahousaht

**NOVEMBER 9: NO CLASS – FALL BREAK**

November 16: 9. Knowledge, Planning, Governance  
Living Between Water and Rocks – John Borrows  
Polishing the Kaswentha – Ransom and Ettenger  
Principles of Environmental Justice (one page) – People of Color  
Environmental Leadership Summit  
**READING RESPONSE DUE**

November 23: 10. Renewing Relationships  
Fish Pluralities – Zoe Todd  
Renewing Relatives – Kyle Whyte et al

November 30: 11. Conclusions  
Review for the exam  
**RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

**FINAL EXAM:** To be scheduled during the Final Examination period, between December 9 and December 20, 2017.