GGR360: Culture, History and Landscape
University of Toronto, Summer 2019
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00-12.00pm
Sidney Smith Hall 1070

Instructor: Killian McCormack
Office: Sidney Smith Hall 5060
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12.30-2.00pm; or by appointment
Email: k.mccormack@mail.utoronto.ca

Teaching Assistants:
Connie Yang                           Loren March
Email: connieh.yang@mail.utoronto.ca  Email: loren.march@mail.utoronto.ca
Office hours: TBA                     Office hours: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Landscape is a foundational geographical concept. Originating in the discipline as a spatial framework for studying and describing human-nature relationships, more recent geographic approaches have explored the symbolic and political dimensions of the lived and representational aspects of landscapes. Throughout its use in geography, however, the concept has consistently dealt with society-space relations. This course deals with the social relations embedded in landscapes and looks at the cultural and material production of landscape. It begins by establishing how landscape is understood in Anglophone geography, before covering a series of historical and contemporary case studies that focus on both the cultural productions of landscape and the lived realities of material landscapes. The course encourages critical thinking about landscape in relation to naturalized social formations, identities, and political processes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
Students taking this course will:

- Develop an understanding of geographical approaches to landscape
- Learn key geographical theories and concepts and apply them to the study of represented and lived landscapes
- Develop an understanding of the social relations embedded in landscape
- Develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills.

COURSE READINGS AND LECTURES
There is no textbook for the course. However, there are required readings that you are expected to read before coming to each class. These readings will be posted on the course’s Quercus site. Lecture slides will also be posted on Quercus before each class for your review.
COURSE EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Every class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>July 12, 11.59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape analysis</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>August 9, 11.59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Date TBA</td>
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**Participation: 10%**
The participation mark will be based on in-class contributions. I will assign a short in-class exercise each class, including short written responses to class material, group discussions, and assignment related activities. Attendance at class is necessary to complete these exercises.

**Visual analysis (1000 words): 20%**
The first assignment will require you to analyse a visual representation of landscape chosen from a list that I will provide. Further details of the assignment will be discussed in class and a full assignment guideline will be posted on Quercus on July 2.

**Landscape analysis (2000 words): 35%**
This assignment will require you to identify, visit, and analyze a specific landscape in the Greater Toronto Area. Your analysis will be informed by concepts and theories dealt with in the course and will focus on the social relations embedded in, and represented by, the landscape. Further details of the assignment will be discussed in class and a full assignment outline will be posted on Quercus after July 16.

**Final exam: 35%**
The final exam will assess your understanding of the central concepts, theories and case studies covered in the course. It will be held during the Faculty of Arts and Science exam period at the end of term (August 15-22).

**Writing support**
Written assignments are a core component of the course’s evaluation. The university has a variety of resources that can assist with writing, including writing centres and courses. Further information on these services, along with several writing and style guides, are available at [http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/](http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/)

**ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES**
If you require an accessibility accommodation or have any accessibility concerns about the course, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible at: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca
COURSE POLICIES

Course environment
The classroom is a respectful space. You are expected to enter with an open and eager mind, and to treat your colleagues with respect at all times. While discussion and critical thinking is encouraged in class, a respectful environment is paramount. Please do not hesitate to speak to me after class or during office hours if you have concerns about the course environment.

Assignment submission
Written assignments will be submitted online on the course’s Quercus site.

Late assignments
Late assignments will incur a 3% penalty for every overdue day, with weekends counting as one day. No late assignments will be accepted one week after the original due date. Extensions will only be granted for documented medical issues or personal emergencies.

Academic integrity
Plagiarism is a serious academic offence that will be punished. It is your responsibility to submit original work that correctly cites its sources. The university’s guidelines around how to avoid plagiarism are available here: http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize

Email policy
I will try and get back to email messages within 24 hours, weekends not included. Email correspondence is limited to simple questions that require short responses, setting up appointments, and dealing with emergencies.

Audio and video recording in class
Taking photos or filming during class is not permitted. Please ask me for permission if you wish to audio-record lectures.

Assignment reassessment
Before asking for a course assignment to be reassessed, take 48 hours to reflect on the comments and feedback you received, as well as the assignment requirements. If you still wish to go ahead with reassessment, you must bring your paper to your TA during office hours with a brief (1-2 paragraphs) written explanation of the areas of the assignment you think should be revisited. If the assignment is accepted for reassessment, there is no guarantee that the mark will go up. Per University of Toronto policy, you have two weeks after receiving your grade to request reassessment.
COURSE OUTLINE

Class 1 (July 2) – Introduction
No readings

Class 2 (July 4) – Landscape as a way of seeing: vision, space, and power

Class 3 (July 9) – ‘Other’ space and ‘other’ nature

Class 4 (July 11) – Nature, landscape and the settler colonial nation

Class 5 (July 16) - The political economy of landscape: labour and extraction

Class 6 (July 18) – Landscape, memory and identity
Class 7 (July 23) – GUEST LECTURE: Prof. Emily Gilbert. Producing and consuming Canadian wilderness landscapes


Class 8 (July 25) – Mediascapes and geopolitics


Class 9 (July 30) – Border landscapes, sovereignty and territory


Class 10 (August 1) – Everyday landscapes of surveillance and exclusion


Class 12 (August 8) – Wrap-up and exam review

No Readings