School of Canadian Studies  
Carleton University

**CDNS 2210A**  
**Introduction to the Study of Canadian Culture**

Summer Term 2016, May – June session

Lecture: Wednesday and Friday, 11:35 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.  
University Centre 182

Instructor: Timothy Di Leo Browne  
Office: Dunton Tower 1221  
E-mail: timothy.browne@carleton.ca

**Course Description:**

This course will introduce students to key concepts in cultural studies, Canadian Studies and interdisciplinary research in the humanities. It will focus on the development of Canadian national culture over time and the way in which it is created and contested by cultural production. Since the state plays such an integral role in Canada’s cultural industries, the relationship between nationalism, political engagement, and artistic expression is a very important topic within Canadian Studies.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To encourage students to think critically about the relationship between cultural practices and the construction of national identities in Canada.

2. To introduce students to debates over the role of cultural practices in contemporary Canada, as well as theoretical concepts in cultural and heritage studies.

3. To encourage students to critically engage with theoretical concepts through group discussions in order to further develop their critical reading abilities.

4. To assist students in developing their oral and written communication, research skills and ability to think critically.

**Course Procedures**

This class will not have separate discussion groups; discussion will be incorporated into the three-hour lecture. Assignments for this course will be submitted on cuLearn.

*All course readings are online. There is no textbook for this course.* Most readings will be accessible by logging in at [https://libares01.carleton.ca/](https://libares01.carleton.ca/)
Course Schedule

Class 1 (May 4): Course Introduction – Theorising Canadian Culture I


Class 2 (May 6): Theorising Canadian Culture II


Class 3 (May 11): The Canadian Cultural Project I: From Canada First to the Group of Seven


Class 4 (May 13): Landscape Continued: Representations in Film and Music


Class 5 (May 18): The Canadian Cultural Project II: Struggles over Mass Culture


**Class 6 (May 20): Border Cultures: Flow, Hybridity, Security**


**Class 7 (May 25): Regionalism in Canadian Culture**


**Class 8 (May 27): Space, Identity, and Representation in Quebec**


**MAY 27, 11:55 PM – FRIDAY – REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT DUE – ONLINE**

**Class 9 (June 1): Contesting the North**


**Class 10 (June 3): Multiculturalism and its Discontents**


Class 11 (June 8): Discussion of Critical Analyses

Class 12 (June 10): Concluding Thoughts/Course Review (no readings)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS DUE – JUNE 10, 11:55 PM, ONLINE

Course Evaluation:

Participation (20%): Come to class and speak up. It’s important that you attend lecture and engage with course materials.

Reflection (15%): For this brief assignment – 2 double-spaced pages – I’d like you to write about yourself in relationship to Canadian culture. I will offer detailed information about this assignment in class. The Reflection is due on Friday May 27 at 11:55 PM.

Critical Analysis (30%): For this assignment, I would like for you to choose a Canadian cultural text (a song, a painting, a photograph, a piece of literature, etc.) and write a 5-page paper on it in relation to one course reading and one academic article you’ve found on your own. I would like for you to demonstrate how the readings you’ve chosen help you to interpret the text and how your cultural product confirms or subverts the theoretical information the articles provide. Essentially, this assignment has two elements: you will need to demonstrate a) a good grasp of the main ideas of the readings you’ve chosen and b) a clear understanding of how these ideas can be applied to a given text. The Critical Analysis is due on Friday June 10, at 11:55 PM, the last day of class.

Note: Since you might choose texts which are not necessarily well-known, it would be a good idea to provide in your paper a detailed (approximately 3/4s of a page) description of the one you’re writing on.

Submission of Written Work

Assignments will be submitted via the assignments tab on cuLearn. All written work to be submitted in docx or doc format, in a 12-point font, double-spaced.

Final Exam (35%): This will be a formal exam during the final exam period, June 17-23. We will have a review class before this.
LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL RECEIVE A DEDUCTION OF 5 PERCENT PER DAY, EXCEPT FOR OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED REASONS.

For medical reasons, students must produce a Doctor's Certificate. A doctor's certificate does not allow for an unlimited extension. The extension is limited to the length of the period of illness specified in the doctor's certificate. For legal reasons such as jury duty, court appearance, imprisonment or deportation, students must produce official documentation from legal authorities.

UNIVERSITY DEADLINES:

Final submission of assignments is governed by the deadlines imposed by the University. All assignments are due not later than the deadlines set by the University Senate for each semester. Instructors are not allowed to grant extensions beyond these dates. Students who cannot meet these deadlines must request a deferral from the Registrar’s Office. University deadlines are as follows: June 14.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as the passing off of anyone else’s work as one’s own. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences has enacted that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: a) directly copies another’s written work without acknowledgment; or b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgement; or c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student’s own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student’s own, would contribute to the merit of his or her work.

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, email me to discuss your needs in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible. Contact the PMC at 613-520-6608 http://www.carleton.ca PMC/students/acad_accom.html.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance. Contact equity services at 613-520-5622; http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/
For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.