

Contact Time	Two 1.5 hour sessions per week: regular weekly contact with materials, readings, your colleagues and the world around you.
Format	Lectures, discussions, activities and student submissions based on key texts, archives, fieldwork, art (film, music, creative writing, visual art), media.
Class Assessment	25% Participation (weekly submission check-in) 45% Creative research exercises 30% Creative mapping assignment

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course takes a critical but also playful and creative approach to the role of geographic, cultural and historical imaginations in shaping landscapes, environments and society. Students will explore several major themes current within the sub-disciplines of historical and cultural geography. In addition, two other key objectives are to introduce students to many of the influential geographical imaginations that continue to light the creative fires in our discipline, and to help students discover their own. Lectures will be offered in relation to a host of invited guests from academic and non-academic communities. Your presence is cherished and we want to check in on your progress and your well-being. Discussion and participation are important and expected aspects of this course: be prepared to speak up, share ideas, and ask questions. Assignments will require students to stretch themselves creatively and intellectually. This is a challenging course and will require a considerable time commitment on your part for reading, making and writing, an essential practice in developing your geographical imagination and key to good historical-cultural geographical analysis.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete this class will:

- Understand theories of power, discourse, place, materialism and representation and their relevance to contemporary geographic scholarship;
- Enhance critical thinking, writing, creative and research skills and demonstrate these skills in their class contributions and artfully researched and presented submissions;
- Demonstrate familiarity with key issues and debates in contemporary historical and cultural geography by engaging with course readings and other course materials in their exercises and creative mapping;
- Challenge taken-for-granted understandings of the world and share critiques;
- Create new and potentially more inclusive spaces for geographical imaginations through experimentation and collaboration.

COURSE TOPICS

The course is composed of three overlapping sections: 'historical geography', 'senses and the field' and 'cultural geography'. We will spend some time at the beginning of the course becoming familiar with some important theoretical concepts such as 'geographical imagination', 'culture', 'nature', 'place', 'discourse', 'power', 'knowledge' and 'representation'. These theoretical building blocks will be crucial for understanding the material covered in the rest of the course. Next, the course will span a range of topics that contemporary historical and cultural geographers are interested in, such as: sonic and musical geographies; relational ecologies; psychogeographies; decolonial practices; possibilities of friendship and what David Harvey calls 'spaces of hope.'

SELECTED COURSE TEXTS & READINGS

- Cameron, Laura. "Digging in the Dirt: Unnatural Histories and the 'Art of Not Dividing.'" *Historical Geography*, 38 (2010): 5-22.
- Cosgrove, Denis. *Geographical Imagination and the Authority of Images* (Stuttgart, Germany: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2006).
- Cresswell, Tim. *Geographic Thought: A Critical Introduction*. (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013).
- Hufschmid, Elvira, "Communicating with Plants and Place through Sensory Drawing." *CMA Journal*, SFU Canada, 2021.
- Goheen, Peter. "Symbols in the Streets: Parades in Victorian Upper Canada," *Urban History Review*, 18:3 (1990): 237-243.
- Lorimer, Hayden. "Caught in the Nick of Time: Archives and Fieldwork." *SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Geography* (2009), pp. 248-272.
- Manguel, Alberto & Gianni Guadalupi. *The Dictionary of Imaginary Places* (Toronto: Vintage Canada, 2001).
- Micaleff, Shawn & Marlina Zuber, *Stroll: Psychogeographic Walking Tours of Toronto* (Toronto: Eye Weekly, 2010).
- Mitchell, Don. "Cultural Studies and the New Cultural Geography," Chapter 2 in *Cultural Geography: A Critical Introduction*. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2000), pp 37-65.
- Murray, Laura. "'We Are the Ones That Make the Treaty': Michi Saagiig Lands and Islands in Southeastern Ontario." *Ethnohistory*, 70:3 (July 2023).
- Parr, Joy. "A Walking Village Remade: Iroquois and the St. Lawrence Seaway," Chapter 4 in *Sensing Changes: Technologies, Environments, and the Everyday, 1953-2003* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2010), pp. 79-101.
- Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake, *As We Have Always Done* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2017).