



Lakehead University
Canadian Identity Politics
POLI-4911-WA
Winter 2014

Instructor: **Normand Perreault** (Department of Political Science)

Classroom: RB 3026

Class Time: Friday 2:30-5:30 PM

Office: RB 2035

Email: nperreault@lakeheadu.ca

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 3:00 – 4:00, or by appointment

Course description:

This course will present a reflection on the nature, impact and prospects of identity politics in Canada. Students will be invited to develop their own reflection, using material relevant to the course, and while focusing on a specific case of identity politics in Canada.

Required readings:

- Dhamoon, Rita. Identity/Difference Politics. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2010. ISBN: 978-0774815918
- Mackey, Eva. The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002. ISBN: 978-0802084811

Evaluation:

The evaluation scheme will consist of the following items:

- A research proposal worth 10% of the total course grade, due on 23 January, and presenting the topic of the research paper that is due at the end of the semester.
- A bibliography of the material that will be used for the research paper that is due at the end of the semester. This bibliography is worth 10% of the total course grade and is due on the 30 January.
- An analytical summary of the main 6 sources/material that will be used in your final research paper, analysed in terms of their relevance to your research topic. This analytical summary is worth 20% of the total course grade and is due on the 13 February.
- A written progress report worth 10% of the total course grade and is due on the 27 February
- An oral presentation of research results, in front of the entire class, worth 10% of the total course grade, and to be done on 20 March, 27 March or 3 April.
- A final research paper that is due at noon, at my office (RB 2035), on 7 April, and that is worth 40% of your total course grade.

Late assignments are not accepted.

Outline of weekly lectures and readings

Week 1 (9 January)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 1: 'Introduction: unsettling differences: origins, methods, frameworks,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 2 (16 January)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 2: 'Settling differences: managing and representing people and land in the Canadian national project,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 3 (23 January)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 3: 'Managing the house of difference: official multiculturalism,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 4 (30 January)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 4: 'Becoming indigenous: cultural difference, land and narratives of nationhood,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 5 (6 February)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 5: 'Localising strategies: celebrating Canada,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 6 (13 February)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 6: 'Crisis in the house: the constitution, celebrations and 'populism',' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.

Week 7 (27 February)

- Eva Mackey, chapter 7: "'bottom line': 'Canada first' and the limits of liberalism,' in Mackey, *The House of Difference: cultural politics and national identity in Canada*.
- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 1: 'The Problem with 'Culture',' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

Week 8 (6 March)

- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 2: 'The Politics of Meaning-Making,' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

Week 9 (13 March)

- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 3: 'Re-Thinking Accounts of the 'Immigrant',' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

Week 10 (20 March)

- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 4: 'Regulating Difference: Accounts of Deaf and Trans-sexual Difference,' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

Week 11 (27 March)

- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 5: 'Accounts of Racialized Gendering: Domination and Relational Othering,' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

Week 12 (3 April)

- Rita Dhamoon, chapter 6: 'Possibilities for Democracy: Toward Disruption,' in Dhamoon, *Identity/Difference Politics*.

The final research paper is due at noon at my office (RB 2035), on 7 April.