Liberal Arts Day

TEACHER’S GUIDE 2015

Proudly Presented By:

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES & RESEARCH
Schedule for 1 May 2015

We request that all students be on the University campus by 9:30am. Please remember that transportation is the responsibility of participating schools. Drop off for buses can be arranged in front of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science building on Saskatchewan Drive. We request that you familiarize yourself with the location of this building and the location of your activities by consulting www.campusmap.ualberta.ca. In case of emergency, please be aware of the following muster points:

If you are in 
CCIS Building: Parking Lot E
CAB: Main Quad
FAB: Parking Lot N

Schedule

9:00 – 9:30 CCIS 1 430 Arrival and Seating

9:30 – 10:00 CCIS 1 430 Opening Remarks
Tristan Ellenberger
Chair of East Asian Studies Professor Ryan Dunch

10:15–11:05: (Various Locations) Activity I

11:15–12:05: (Various Locations) Activity II

The organizers of Liberal Arts Day 2015 thank the Faculty of Arts for their generous sponsorship of this year’s event

Contact Information:

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ACTIVITIES

Classes will attend two activities on Liberal Arts Day. Teachers are requested to email liberalartsday@gmail.ca with a first, second, third, and fourth choice. We endeavour to do our best to accommodate your requests.

Anthropology – Life Hurts and then You Die: Archaeology, Skeletons, and the Past

How do we know what life was like long ago? What did people eat and drink? What did they look like? Did they get the same diseases as us? I’m a bioarchaeologist, which means I study skeletons from archaeological sites to research life in the past. Today I’ll talk about some of the things we can determine by looking at a skeleton. I’ll also introduce you to some people from long ago, including a knight, the last survivor of a doomed town, and a ‘vampire’ (no, seriously – wait and see!).

Location: CAB 365  
Presenter: Dr. Sandra Garvie-Lok  
Session 1: Donald Massey I  
Session 2: Crestwood I

Art and Design – The Voice of Printmaking

Contemporary artists use printmaking as a means to explore concepts including identity, the environment, loss, memory, and more. By touring the studio and looking at prints from the University of Alberta printmaking teaching collection, we will examine different methods of printmaking and how they are used to convey messages, emotion, or offer pause on an array of subjects. We will also look at Heather Leier's graduate printmaking work and discuss how she uses stuffed animals and dolls to signify childhood. Her visual research examines the nuances of childhood and beckons questions about what a normal childhood is, while seeking to open up a dialogue about childhood anxiety.

Location: FAB 240  
Presenter: Heather Leier  
Session 1: Art and Design I  
Session 2: Highlands I

Classics - Blood on the Sand and in the Arena: Greek and Roman Sport

Are you curious about how the modern Olympics grew out of the ancient Olympian Games? Do you want to know what happened to women who infiltrated the men-only ancient Olympian Games or how the officials dealt with cheaters? Do you ever ask yourself "did gladiators really fight to the death? Were there women gladiators? Were Christians actually thrown to the lions?"? Then join me for a discussion of the ancient cult(ure) of sports!
Cultural Studies – Cartoons and Folk Tales in the Soviet Union

Film animation is often perceived as a medium aimed at children, and not as a means of conveying certain political ideas. In the former Soviet Union, animation draws heavily on fairy and folk tales. The official state studio was particularly interested in displaying its own national culture, as an education tool for the many different nations living in the USSR. This presentation examines the uses of national culture in Russian animation during the eights of Socialist Realism.

Drama – Backstage Production Techniques: A Backstage Tour of the Timms Centre

An extended tour of the backstage and onstage production areas of the Timms Centre for the Arts. As we prepare to mount “Tribes” the students will have an opportunity to see how the costumes, props, sets, lighting and audio come together in support of Nina Raine’s play about a comically dysfunctional family and their deaf son Billy. Based on a real life deaf couple who hoped their offspring would be born deaf as well, this production reveals some of the languages, beliefs, and hierarchies of the family and the “extended family” of the deaf community. In this presentation, the students will learn the relationship between the physical elements and the text of a play.

History I - Changing the Past to Change the Future: Using (Medieval) Historical Films to Influence Modern Debates

Films are more effective in influencing how people imagine the past than are the works of academic historians. Unsurprisingly, the makers of historical films have frequently sought to intervene in contemporary debates through publicizing particular images of the past, often dramatically misrepresenting that past. This presentation analyses the misrepresentations in three medieval films “Die Nibelungen” (Germany, 1924), “Ivanhoe” (USA, 1952) and “Becket” (Great Britain, 1964). Students will see how the filmmakers attempted to influence public
opinion concerning issues of their day (women’s suffrage, “mixed” marriages and gay relationships). The presentation will conclude with general tips on viewing historical films.

**Location:** CAB 281  
**Presenter:** Dr. Felice Lifshitz  
**Session 1:** Louis St. Laurent II  
**Session 2:** Crestwood III

**History II – Patriots, Loyalists, and Revolution in New York City, 1775-1776**

In this class students will engage with the ideological foundations of the American Revolution and the practical mechanisms of government in New York City on the eve of the Revolutionary War. The class will play a game in which each student’s ultimate goal is to have his/her side in control of New York City at the end of 1776. No previous knowledge is needed for this class.

**Location:** CAB 373  
**Presenter:** Dr. Sharon Romeo  
**Session 1:** Highlands II  
**Session 2:** Londonderry II

**History III – Museums and Storytelling**

Museums are everywhere. You've probably visited one or two. But, have you ever stopped to think about how a museum gets made? Or, did you think that museums are just there, always the same and never changing? From the curators and the conservators, to the guides and the designers, it takes a lot of people to build a museum and keep it filled with new stories and exhibits. In this presentation, students will build a mini exhibit, working through the questions museum professionals and public historians ask everyday as they devise new ways of sharing stories with people.

**Location:** CAB 239  
**Presenter:** Lauren Wheeler (Alberta Museums Association)  
**Session 1:** Crestwood I  
**Session 2:** Percy Baxter I


If you have seen the movie Gattaca (Columbia Pictures, 1997), then you know someone already imagined how some future race of humans would be born. What you may not know is that reproduction through genetic manipulation no longer exists in some imagined or dystopian future. Sheep and dogs have been born through an asexual form of reproduction known as cloning, which results in an offspring that is the “genetic copy” of a single parent. Are human
clones next? Recently, scientists in the UK developed a procedure that makes it possible to give birth to a “three-parent” baby. And depending on where you live, it is now possible to create a baby with genetic features that are designed to save an ailing sibling’s life. Maybe even a baby with Zayn Malik’s baby blue eyes. All this sounds really cool, but what does Canadian law say about it all?

Music I - How Do You Mean? No This Isn’t a Typo: Music as a Language

This presentation considers music as a medium for social conversation and redefines it as an identity in and among itself. I intend to make my presentation more accessible to wider audiences by focusing on the controversial perspective that music acts as a language and therefore contains structural and expressive indicators that relay intended meanings. The presentation begins by talking about a brief passage of text related to the concept of identity, showing ways that music reinforces and highlights identities. Afterwards, I shift to a musical discussion on the concept of word painting to reveal music’s capability to characterize identity in much the same way. Finally, an interactive segment will take place with the students in which we talk about where such occasions occur in music today.

Music II – Marching Bands across World’s Cultures

Many of us play musical instruments, either solo or in a band. In this presentation we will learn about bands and how this musical form spread to different countries of the world, each with their own culturally unique sound. Our session will trace the formation of the military marching band from Turkish Janissaries to the 18th century French and British who took this form of music with them as they conquered the world. We will learn about marching bands in different continents and hear their sounds and discuss its differences.
Philosophy - Puzzling Questions to Foster a Curious Mind’s Sense of Wonder

Philosophers are strange creatures. While other people are busy learning how to count, how to speak a new language, or how to build computers, philosophers ask questions that seem completely useless. What is more, philosophers rarely provide satisfying answers the questions they raise. So what's the use? In this session, we will think through some age-old philosophical puzzles about triangles, numbers, unicorns, and the like. We will see how philosophical thinking can make us question things we always took for granted and renew our wonder in the face of the most common things in world.

Location: CAB 273
Presenter: Dr. Marie-Eve Morin
Session 1: D.S. MacKenzie I
Session 2: Louis St. Laurent I

Psychology - Impactful Dreams and Literary Reading

Most of the time dreams seem to occur and then fade away, but sometimes they influence our thoughts and feelings long after we awaken. We will talk about different types of such “impactful” dreams (like nightmares)—and how they affect us. Some impactful dreams are very frightening while others make us feel very sad—and these two kinds of dreams also have different effects. Finally, we will discuss how these effects of dreaming are a little bit like literary reading when we feel lost in a book, or absorbed in a story.

Location: CAB 379
Presenter: Shawn Douglas
Session 1: Percy Baxter II
Session 2: Crestwood II

Sociology - Communication and Social Learning

Canada is a nation rich in beautiful pristine wilderness and abundant natural resources. Canada’s economy relies on the development of these natural resources. However, the activities of extractive resource industries, such as coal mining, arguably have significant impacts on these natural spaces. The sharing of information within a community, for example via news, social media, or conversations with neighbours, plays an important role in educating and informing individuals about these activities and their impact on the natural environment. But, how do we know these discussions are taking place? How do we ensure that community members understand what they are reading and have an opportunity to pose questions or concerns? And, how might information sharing influence participation in discussions about industry projects? This presentation will explore communication paths related to environmental planning for the ‘Vista Coal Mining Project’ in Hinton. This discussion will focus on changes to federal and provincial natural resource management legislation, as well as the broader historical and social forces that influence public participation in industry projects.

Location: CAB 377
Presenter: Cassandra Copp
Session 1: Donald Massey I
Session 2: Donald Massey III
Could you please have your bus drop you off in the vicinity of the red circle. Someone will be there to escort you and your students to the auditorium.