



Frank Newbould, The South Downs, 1942. © Imperial War Museum

71st Annual
Midwest Conference on British Studies
September 27-28, 2024
Toronto, Ontario
Toronto Metropolitan University

MWCBS 2024

TORONTO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

LOCAL GUIDE TO TORONTO

Welcome to Toronto!

Toronto Metropolitan University is proud to host the 2024 MWCBS in Toronto. The site on which Toronto stands has been inhabited for millennia by different groups of indigenous Canadian people. The city has seen many waves of immigrants coming to call Toronto home, beginning with French and English settlers in the early modern era, and subsequently followed by people from every corner of the world. This native heritage, combined with many layers of new communities has made Toronto one of the most diverse cities in the world.

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

Getting Around:

The fastest and most inexpensive way to get to the Royal York Hotel from Pearson Airport is to take the Union-Pearson Express train. The train runs from 6:00 am to 1:00 am every day, with departures every 15 minutes. At the airport, follow the signs for the UP Express and ride it to Union Station. You can buy tickets in advance at upexpress.com/en or at the station using your contactless debit or credit card. The Royal York is conveniently located across the street from Union Station. The rest of Toronto's public transit system is a well-connected mix of subways, streetcars and buses collectively called the TTC. All of these are accessible by tapping a credit or debit card, with a single journey costing \$3.30.

If you are driving, the hotel has valet parking located at the east doors, off of Front Street. This is charged at \$12 an hour, with a maximum cap of \$42 a day. Overnight parking will incur a charge of \$70. Alternatively, there is a public parking garage at 79 Wellington St that has direct access to the hotel. This is charged at \$15 an hour, with a maximum cap of \$30 a day. Evenings after 6 pm are \$10 on weekdays and \$15 on weekends. To access this garage, drive westbound on Wellington St West from Bay St towards York St and then turn left into the parking garage. Collect a ticket at the gate and stay on P1, heading towards the "Fairmont Royal York" sign. Take the elevators and press the button for the Royal York.

Restaurants:

Toronto's thriving restaurant scene reflects its incredibly diverse population. You can find every cuisine from Argentinian to Zambian. All of the restaurants listed here have vegetarian and vegan options available, with many offering gluten-free alternatives as well. We recommend reservations where possible as some of these places fill up quickly!

Breakfast and Lunch

Tim Hortons (\$ - 55 York St, 0.06 km): Canada's signature coffee chain! Coffee, doughnuts and sandwiches.

Starbucks (\$ - 123 Front St W, 0.1 km): Tried and true coffee, sandwiches and cakes.

BeaverTails Toronto Waterfront (\$ - 145 Queens Quay W, 0.7 km): A delightful Canadian pastry! Hot, sweet, and delicious.

Smoke's Poutinerie Adelaide (\$ - 218 Adelaide St W, 0.7 km): Try the famous French-Canadian favourite! Fries, gravy and cheese curds and loads of other topping choices.

Chipotle Mexican Grill (\$ - 123 Front St W, 0.1 km): The well-known Mexican chain serving burritos, tacos and bowls.

Union Station Food Court (\$ - 65 Front St W, 0.1 km): A large variety of quick options located on B1 and B2 of Union Station.

Canadian

REIGN Restaurant + Bar + Bakery (\$\$\$ - 100 Front St W, Royal York Hotel Lobby): Classic dishes inspired by Canada's natural produce and the history of the Royal York Hotel.

Canoe (\$\$\$\$ - 66 Wellington St W, 54th floor, 0.3 km): Contemporary cuisine drawn from Canada's landscape with incredible views from the 54th floor of the TD Bank Tower.

Black and Blue (\$\$\$\$ - 130 King St W, 0.2 km): Modern steakhouse serving both Canadian and Japanese steaks and dishes.

Moxies (\$\$ - 70 University Ave, 0.2 km): A perennial favourite, upscale-casual, Canadian chain restaurant.

Italian

Scaddabush (\$\$ - 200 Front St W, 0.2 km): Rustic Italian kitchen serving fresh pastas with house-made ingredients.

Pizzeria Libretto (\$\$ - 155 University Ave, 0.4 km): Authentic Neapolitan pizzas with gluten free options.

Cantina Mercato (\$\$\$ - 20 Wellington St E, 0.6 km): A variety of Italian dishes and an extensive wine list inspired by traditional underground wine cellars.

Asian

PAI (\$\$ - 18 Duncan St, 0.7 km): A very popular spot for Northern Thai classics with a street-food twist.

Ki Modern Japanese and Bar (\$\$\$\$ - 181 Bay St, 0.3 km): A sleek, modern izakaya with hot dishes as well as sushi.

Daldongnae Korean BBQ – Dundas Square (\$\$ - 361 Yonge St 2nd Floor, 1.7 km): Popular Korean barbecue location with in-table grills and pre-made options.

Kibo Sushi House – Yonge (\$ - 16 Yonge St Unit D, 0.7 km): A great variety of fresh takeaway sushi and tempura.

Latin

Chotto Matte (\$\$\$ - 161 Bay St, 0.2 km): A unique Peruvian-Japanese fusion restaurant with a variety of small plates and tasting menus.

Leña Restaurante (\$\$\$ - 176 Yonge St, 1 km): Elevated South American food with Spanish and Italian influences.

La Carnita (\$\$ - 106 John St, 0.8 km): Tacos and craft beer in a local artist designed space with graffiti murals.

Middle Eastern and Indian

Urban Maharajas (\$\$\$ - 22 The Esplanade, 0.6 km): Modern Indian dishes in a fine dining atmosphere.

Byblos Downtown (\$\$\$ - 11 Duncan St, 0.7 km): A luxurious, contemporary take on Eastern Mediterranean cuisine.

Benares Cucina Indian (\$\$ - 49 Front St E, 0.6 km): Traditional Indian food in a comfortable setting.

Breweries

Steam Whistle Kitchen (\$\$ - 255 Bremner Blvd, 0.8 km): Pilsner brewery with beer, pub favourites and sandwiches located in a historic railway building.

Amsterdam Brewhouse (\$\$ - 245 Queens Quay W, 1.1 km): Pub serving Amsterdam ales and comfort food with an outdoor patio.

Vegetarian/Vegan

PLANTA Queen (\$\$\$ - 180 Queen St W, 0.9 km): Classic Pan-Asian dishes made completely vegan.

Fresh Kitchen + Juice Bar (\$\$ - 47 Front St E, 0.6 km): A longstanding Toronto favourite for casual, fresh vegan food.

Local Attractions:

Toronto has so many wonderful places to explore, and some of them are right outside the doors of the Royal York Hotel! The CN Tower is the most recognisable part of Toronto's skyline and was the tallest building in the world until 2007 when it was surpassed by the Burj Khalifa. It has incredible views of Toronto and Lake Ontario, as well as a revolving restaurant, a glass floor and the EdgeWalk, an outdoor platform where the bravest can lean off the roof of the tower! At the bottom of the tower is the wonderful Ripley's Aquarium of Canada, which boasts North America's longest underwater walkway and a variety of both local and exotic animals. Along the Harbourfront, there are many parks and restaurants, including the Steam Whistle Brewery, which has tours and their own restaurant. You can also take the ferry to Toronto Island for plenty of green space, beaches, a zoo and more.

For those who wish to venture slightly further afield, midtown Toronto has lots to offer. The Royal Ontario Museum has an extensive collection including pieces from Canada and around the world. It also holds an incredible assortment of large dinosaur skeletons! The Art Gallery of Ontario is a large space with both Canadian and European masterpieces. Toronto also has its very own castle: Casa Loma. This gorgeous castle from 1914 has guest tours, special exhibitions and lovely gardens. Further towards the north end of Toronto, you can step back in time at Black Creek Pioneer Village, a replica of an 1860s Ontario country village, with artefacts, costumed interpreters and activities. All of these attractions are easily accessible on the TTC.

2024 Midwest Conference on British Studies
September 27-28, Toronto, Ontario
Hosted by Toronto Metropolitan University

Thursday, September 26, 2024

5:00-7:00 pm **Early Registration at [fill in location]**

Friday, September 27, 2024

8:00 am-4:00 pm **Registration at [fill in location]**

Friday, September 27

Session 1

Panels 1-3

9:00-10:30 am

Panel 1 (Saskatchewan) Law, Justice, and the Origins of Empire

Chair/Commentator: Thomas Pert, University of Warwick

The Performative Body in the Witchcraft Trial: Conjuring the “Enchanted Isle”
Megan Griffiths, Queen’s University

From the Mark of a Jacobite to the "Sanitary Oath": how the Oath of Scotch Rebels Became the English Oath
Karen Macfarlane, Trent University

Panel 2 (Nova Scotia) Public Spaces in Nineteenth and Twentieth-Century Britain: Justice, Consumerism, and Health

Chair/Commentator: Anne Rodrick, Wofford College

“Too Small for the Accommodating of the Public on Interesting Occasions”: The Space of “Open Justice” in the Assize Courts in England, ca. 1800-1850
Estella Chen, University of Oxford

Where the Plate Glass Ends: Illuminating Department Store Spaces with 3D Modeling
Marissa Knaak, Michigan State University

Selling Health on the High Street: Boots The Chemists and "Regesan" Advertising in Interwar Britain

Hilary Ingram, University of Nottingham

Panel 3 (New Brunswick) Family Networks and Imperial Ties in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century British Empire

Chair: Cecilia Morgan, University of Toronto

The Eassons and Empire: Familial Networks in the British Atlantic World in the 18th and 19th Centuries

Elyse Bell, Queen's University

Sisterhood By Blood, By Choice, By Love: Intimate Relationships Between the Dobbs Sisters 1830-1850

Victoria Seta Cosby, Queen's University

Family Ties, Garrison Lives: The British Military and Family Networks in the Mid-Nineteenth Century Empire

Cecilia Morgan, University of Toronto

Commentator: Elizabeth Elbourne, McGill University

Session 2

Panels 4-6

10:45 am-12:15 pm

Panel 4 (Saskatchewan) World War II, the Military, and the Empire

Chair/Commentator: Phyllis Soybel, College of Lake County

British Women's Auxiliary Organizations in the Middle East, 1941-1945

Stefanie Wichhart, Niagara University

The Post War Life of the Supermarine Spitfire: The RAF's Hesitant Promotion of a National *Lieu de Mémoire*

Stephen Heathorn, McMaster University

At Home in the World: British Indian Agent-Generals and the Second World War

Sujato Datta, Albert-Ludwigs University of Freiburg

Panel 5 (Nova Scotia)

Sexuality and Science 1877-2023

Chair/Commentator: Chet DeFonso, Northern Michigan University

“Photographs of naked women”: E.N. Fallaize and the Royal Anthropological Institute
Lisa Sigel, DePaul University

Rethinking Contraception Literature Before 1877: Carlile, Owen, and Knowlton in the Victorian
Pornography Trade
Sarah Bull, Toronto Metropolitan University

“A Being Without a Name”: A Nineteenth-Century Prehistory of Medico-Legal Perspectives on
Transness
Ariel Fried, University of Missouri

Panel 6 (New Brunswick)

**Women and the Negotiation of Power in Early Modern
England: Work, Intercession, and Mercy**

Chair/Commentator: Jennifer McNabb, University of Northern Iowa

Women and Wool at the Intersection of Work, Hardship, and Criminality in the Shetland Islands,
1580-1637
Brenna Clark, University of Guelph

“Very Desirous That Mercy Might Be Shewn”: Mary II and The Use of Royal Pardons, Post-
1688
Amelia Rosch, Queen’s University

12:15-1:30

Lunch (On your own)

Session 3

Panels 7-9

1:45-3:15 pm

Panel 7 (Saskatchewan)

**Re-examining the Triumph of Science and Secularism
in the Nineteenth Century**

Chair/Commentator: Susie Steinbach, Hamline University

The Mid-Victorian “Science-Gossip” and the Shifting Spaces of Natural Science
Anne Rodrick, Wofford College

Reasons to be Atheist in Victorian England: Nineteenth-Century British Secularists and Atheists
Communicate a World of Dissension
David Nash, Oxford Brookes University

“A most peculiar form of disease”: Anorexia Nervosa in Late Nineteenth-Century Britain
Rhea Sookdeosingh, King’s College London

Panel 8 (Nova Scotia)

Resistance and Authority in the Civil War Era

Chair/Commentator: Robert Bucholz, Loyola University

Dynastic Disloyalty or Dire Desperation?: Charles I, the Elector Palatine, and the Civil War
c.1642-1649
Thomas Pert, University of Warwick

New Perspectives on Oliver Cromwell
Ian Gentles, Tyndale University

The 1654 Treason Law: A Tool of Conquest or the First Step to a British Republic?
Kristen Becker, University of Guelph

Panel 9 (New Brunswick)

**Roundtable Discussion: Public and Private, Large and
Small: Teaching, Serving, and Thriving at Different
Types of Colleges and Universities**

Discussion Leader: John Krenzke, Tidewater Community College

Phyllis Soybel, College of Lake County
Rob Butler, Elmhurst University
Jennifer McNabb, University of Northern Iowa
David Pennington, Webster University

Session 4
Panels 10-12
3:30-5:00pm

Panel 10 (Saskatchewan) State-Building in Late Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Britain

Chair/Commentator: John Leazer, Carthage College

The Political Implications of Lord Treasurer Danby's Financial Policy
Ben Sharp, Durham University

"Worms in the Entrails": Corporations and the Politics of State Formation in Early Modern England
Boone Ayala, University of Chicago

"He's as cross as the devil": Excisemen, Tradesmen, and the Eighteenth-Century State
Robin Ganev, University of Regina

An "About Turn" in Fiscal Policy? The Land Tax and the Fiscal Crisis of the 1780s
Amy Stanning, Lancaster University

Panel 11 (Nova Scotia) Pedagogical Pioneers in the Nineteenth Century

Chair/Commentator: Sarah Bull, Toronto Metropolitan University

The Other Front – Anna Laetitia Barbauld's Pedagogical Campaign for Social Change
Natasha Lomonosoff, Queen's University

"The Elaborate Toil of Translation": Gender, Pedagogy, and Linguistics in Sara Coleridge's *Lessons in Latin*
Jordi Alonso, Louisiana State University

Panel 12 (New Brunswick) Travel Writing in the Nineteenth Century

Chair/Commentator: Lisa Sigel, DePaul University

Visions of Sublimity: Aesthetic Travel Writing Over Thirty Years in Bathurst's *Two Scottish Tours*
James Rubino, University of Guelph

History and Travel Writing about Brazil in Early Nineteenth-Century Britain
Gabriel Pessoa, Queen's University

5:00-7:30 pm

MWCBS Reception and Plenary Address in the Tudor

Plenary Address:

The War of 1812: The View from Canada
Carl Benn, Toronto Metropolitan University

Saturday, September 28, 2024

Session 5

Panels 13-15

8:30-10:00 am

Panel 13 (Saskatchewan)

Cultural Change and Reaction in Post-War Britain and Nigeria

Chair/Commentator: Katie-Marie McNeill, Queen's University

“Cold Coffee and Hot Sex”: Coffee Bars and the History of Youth in Postwar Britain
Catherine Ellis, Toronto Metropolitan University

50 Years After “Speak for Yourself”: The Historical Significance of a 1974 Landmark LGBTQ Documentary
Chet DeFonso, Northern Michigan University

“Hooking Up”: Social Media, Sexual Chastity, and the Underground Economy of Abakaliki, Southeast Nigeria, 1970 – 2020
Okoro Onu Ewa, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Panel 14 (Nova Scotia)

Rethinking “the Double” in Nineteenth-Century Literature

Chair/Commentator: Ariel Fried, University of Missouri

Displacing Duplicity: Implications of Imperial Violence and The Double in *Jekyll and Hyde*
Megi Mecolli, University of Illinois

Dorian's Hour, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde's Hour, and Beauty's Hour
Anjalee Nadarajan, York University

Panel 15 (New Brunswick)

Canadian Experiences in the Great War

Chair/Commentator: Bryan McClure, independent scholar

Whatsoever a Man Soweth: The Reaction of Senior Canadian Military Officers to a British Film about Venereal Disease, 1917-1919

Craig Leslie Mantle, Canadian Forces College

Holy War: Trauma, Religion, and Imperialism in F.G. Scott's *The Great War as I Saw It*
Zane Aubie, University of Guelph

Climbing the Imperial Ladder: Walter Davidson, Newfoundland, and the First World War
Bonnie White, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Session 6

Panels 16-18

10:15-11:45

Panel 16 (Saskatchewan)

Victorian Women Authors

Chair/Commentator: Jordi Alonso, Louisiana State University

The Ecosystem of the Home: The Domestic versus the Wild Spaces in Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*

Korryn Plantenberg, University of Nebraska

Wallflower Power: Feminine Observation of the Masculine Sphere as a Form of Empowerment in *The History of Emily Montague* and *Mansfield Park*

Tamara Vargay, University of Guelph

Panel 17 (Nova Scotia)

Journalism in Imperial and Contemporary History

Chair/Commentator: Stefanie Wichhart, Niagara University

How Far is Too Far? Murder, Collusion and the Stalker Affair
Nick Clifton, Kingston University

Panel 18 (New Brunswick)

Constructing and Aiding “the Other” at Home and Abroad

Chair/Commentator: Aidan Forth, MacEwan University

Navigating the English and Welsh New Poor Law: The Epistolary Archive of Relief, c.1834-1847

Matthew Bayly, University of Lincoln

The True Scotch-Irish? The Othering, then De-Othering, of the Island Scot in the 1880s and 1890s

Timothy Forest, University of Cincinnati

Inspiration from Howard to Fry: Prisoner Aid Societies’ Policies and Practices for Justice in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, 1930-1970

Katie-Marie McNeill, Queen’s University

12:00-12:45

Luncheon, Business Meeting in the Tudor

12:45-2:00 pm

Graduate Student Award(s) and Keynote Address in the Tudor

Keynote Address: Religion and Renown in Post-Revolutionary England
Brian Cowan, McGill University

Session 7

Panels 19-21

2:15-3:45 pm

Panel 19 (Saskatchewan)

Imperial Networks and Spatial Imaginaries

Chair/Commentator: Padraic Scanlan, University of Toronto

Teachers and the British Empire, 1810-1840

Ksenia Podvoiskaia, University of Chicago

Settler Anxiety and Intercolonial Information Movement in the 1870s

Alex Martinborough, Queen’s University

From the Atlantic to the Pacific: The Panama Canal and Evolving Spatial Imaginaries in Canada

Paula Hastings, University of Toronto

Panel 20 (Nova Scotia)

Imperialism and Cross-Cultural Exchange: Sport, Ceremony, and Medicine

Chair/Commentator: Bonnie White, Memorial University of Newfoundland

“Those Who Undertook It Would Get A New Idea Of What Empire Means”: The Scottish Curling Tour of Canada and America, 1902-03
Bryan McClure, Independent Scholar

Ornamental Politics and the Impact of British Monarchial Celebrations on the People of Nigeria, 1861-1960
Uche Uwaezuoke Okonkwo, University of Chicago

Medicine and Colonialism in the Deccan Region in 19th-century India
Sai Krishna Vardhaman, Indian Institute of Technology Madras

“This rebel blood of mine will always be uppermost”: Anti-Imperialism and a Scottish Historical Consciousness in Mackenzie’s British North America
Eben Prevec, Queen’s University

Panel 21 (New Brunswick)

Roundtable Discussion: Collaborating with Care: Doing Ethical Public Engagement and Outreach

Rhea Sookdeosingh, King's College London
Lia Paradis, Slippery Rock University

Session 8
Panels 22-24
4:00-5:30 pm

Panel 22 (Saskatchewan)

Imperialism and Globalization

Chair/Commentator: Paula Hastings, University of Toronto

Ocean Voyages in the Age of Steam: Histories of Connection and Disconnection
Aidan Forth, MacEwan University

Cocoa in the Gold Coast: Evolving Global Economy in a Small British Colony, 1859-1957
Maxwell Asabere, West Virginia University

From Québec to India: Constitutional Pluralism in British Imperial Ideology
Damien Bérubé, University of Oxford

Panel 23 (Nova Scotia)

The Politics of Land Use in Early Modern England

Chair/Commentator: John Krenzke, Tidewater Community College

River Turbulence: Riparian Conflict and the State in Early Modern England
Eric Ash, Wayne State University

Agricultural Improvement and the Risk of Popular Tumult: The Unmaking of Tudor Anti-Enclosure Policy
David Pennington, Webster University

Dutch Prize Ships, Sherwood Forest Timber, and Navy Building 1664-1667
Sara Morrison, University of Western Ontario

Panel 24 (New Brunswick) Literature, Gender, and Transgression

Chair/Commentator: Matthew Bayly, University of Lincoln

“Cyprian Queens” in the “Lethe of Foul”: Sexual Expectations and Literary History in *Harris’s List of Covent Garden Ladies*, 1761-1794
Sarah Milligan, University of Northern British Columbia

Animal Eyes: Constructing British Nationality Through Violence
Joti Bilkhu, York University

WAGs or Queens of Crime?: Revisiting the Golden Age of Detective Fiction through Feminist Historiography
Kelly Thomson, York University

The Midwest Conference on British Studies would like to thank the following for their generous support of this year's conference:

[To Be Added]

The Midwest Conference on British Studies would like to thank the following donors to the MWCBS Jim Sack Travel Award:

[To Be Added]

The Conference was organized by the following:

Local Organizer: Martin Greig, Toronto Metropolitan University

Program Committee Chair: David Pennington, Webster University

Program Committee: Timothy Forest, University of Cincinnati; Abby Lagemann, Drake University; Justin J.J. Ness, Purdue University Northwest; Phyllis Soybel, College of Lake County; Tammy Whitlock, University of Kentucky

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