

Tri-University Graduate Program in History HI 700/7000 Professional Development Seminar Fall and Winter Terms, 2012-2013

This program milestone course is designed to guide students through graduate studies in history at the Tri-University and to prepare them for their future careers. The course will examine different aspects of the historian's work in applied ways. Graduate history students need to know about researching and publishing, lecturing and leading seminars, giving conference papers and applying for grants, but they also need to know something about marketing themselves and they need to learn how to make their research and teaching profile stand out from the rest. In the Professional Development Seminar, historians from the three participating departments will introduce students to the various aspects of the historian's work and offer tips for students looking to enhance their teaching and publishing record, increase their odds at securing funding, and improve their chances of being hired. **Please note:** There are no written assignments or reading components with the PDS, but attendance is mandatory. Each week, Diane Purdy will email all of you to make sure that you know the room numbers on campus. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email Diane (dpurdy@uoguelph.ca) or Professor Andrew Hunt (aehunt@uwaterloo.ca).

Meeting Schedule

Introductory Session - Tri-University Graduate Program - expectations and goals

Friday, 12 October 2012, 1:00-2:00

Andrew Hunt

University of Waterloo

The opening session of the Professional Development Seminar is a Tri-University Program Survival Guide. We'll discuss what to expect at each stage of the program, studying coping strategies and the different program milestones and when they should, ideally, occur.

The Ins & Outs of Grant Writing

Friday, 26 October 2012: 1:00-2:30

Angela Roorda

University of Waterloo

Angela Roorda, who has been assisted colleagues throughout the Faculty of Arts in applying successfully for grants and has rich experience in improving ("fixing up") a wide variety of applications, will offer advice on writing strong grant applications. Come prepared to discuss the process and ask questions.

Getting Ready for Research

Friday, 9 November 2012: 1:00-2:30

Alan McDougall

University of Guelph

In some ways, research is easier now than it has ever been before: finding aids are on-line, archives tend to be open longer and are better organized, many repositories allow photography and photocopying. But in other ways, the job of research is much more complicated as historians now have to deal with ethics reviews, access to information laws and new copyright restrictions.

This class is intended to help students prepare for their research by assisting them in defining expectations, sorting research materials, and clearing the ground for research itself.

The TA's work: leading a seminar, troubleshooting problems, inspiring students

Friday, 23 November 2012: 1:00-2:30

Tracy Penny Light

University of Waterloo

This class will focus on teaching strategies and skills. How can TAs promote careful reading and intelligent discussions in their seminars? The class will also explore problem issues that might arise in the seminar and how to deal with them. Dr. Kroeker has had extensive experience in training and working with teaching assistants. She has served for several years as the co-coordinator of the University of Waterloo's TA Workshop.

Publishing On-Line

Friday, 11 January 2013: 1:00-2:30

Chris Nighman

Wilfrid Laurier University

On-line publishing is a growing area in the historical profession and something students should consider engaging in even now. How the web can be used to create research tools, facilitate scholarly networking, and provide opportunities for digital publishing? And what it can do for the student and scholarly community are the topics of this class.

Developing a Course

Friday, 18 January 2013: 1:00-2:30

Norman Smith

University of Guelph

The time will come soon enough when students in the program will need to develop a course of their own. What's in a good outline? How does one find the right readings? What are the advantages and disadvantages of using textbooks or monographs as course texts? This class takes students through the process of course design, from book ordering to the use of interesting media in the classroom itself.

The How-To's of Conferencing and Publishing

Friday, 8 February 2013: 1:00-2:30

Gary Bruce

University of Waterloo

Finding the right conference or journal is important. All venues are not of equal value and students need to determine if the item they are submitting in the publication that accepts it really warrants their time and effort. In this seminar we offer some tips on reading calls for papers, finding funds for conference travel and knowing what to look for in a publication's submissions policy page.

Preparing a Professional Dossier

Friday, 1 March 2013: 1:00-2:30

Matthew Hayday

University of Guelph

Students need to start thinking early about their professional dossier, their CV and their teaching file. What kind of supporting material is needed by potential employers? How important is your statement of teaching philosophy? A guide to making the strongest impact possible with your professional dossier.

Looking for Work

Friday, 15 March 2013: 1:00-2:30

University of Waterloo

University of Waterloo Faculty

In a few years time, students in this class will be on the job market looking for academic and non-academic jobs. What are the realities of today's academic job market? What jobs should graduates apply for and what do search committees look for in their applicants? This class will focus on the ins and outs of the job market and offer valuable pointers from colleagues who have recently experienced being on the job market.