

**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH  
HISTORY DEPARTMENT  
FALL 2017**

**WORKPLACE LEARNING HIST3480: “GuelphYesterday”**

Instructor/Faculty Advisor: Dr Linda Mahood

Workplace Supervisor: Tammy Adkin, Manager, Guelph Museums

**Interested students should contact Dr. Mahood, [lmahood@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lmahood@uoguelph.ca)**

**Course Format: Independent work with scheduled meetings.**

GuelphToday is an exclusively online news and information site that provides breaking news and local features through desktop, mobile and tablet formats. The GuelphToday team has reached out to Guelph Museums to develop a monthly pictorial feature, highlighting compelling, and perhaps lesser-known, stories from Guelph’s history.

Your experiential learning opportunity will involve researching and writing captions for 12-five image pictorial packages which will be published by Guelph Today. Your primary source of information and images will be the Guelph Museums collection, and you will consult with and be supported by the Museum’s manager, curator, and collections and research coordinator.

In connecting this work experience to your academic discipline you will write a series of short critical reflections and a research paper analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the representation of historical information in new media formats.

**Methods of Evaluation and Weights:**

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| • Proposal of 12 pictorial topics and overview of best practices for such initiatives | 10% |
| • 12 x five image pictorial packages with captions                                    | 50% |
| • Weekly Critical Reflections submitted in two instalments                            | 15% |
| • Document analysis of history representation in new media, (1500 words)              | 25% |

**Learning Outcomes:**

Knowledge of research practices

Knowledge of journalistic writing practices

Ability to communicate compelling history for use in a media platform

Knowledge of Guelph history

Appreciation for public engagement

Ability to critically reflect upon your own work

Ability to critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of history representation in new media

## **No Textbook Required**

### **Project Timeline**

Week 1: Pre-arranged meeting with the Professor and the Guelph Museums manager to discuss the project. Guidelines will be established for selecting topics, researching them using the museum collection, and writing them up in an engaging manner.

Weeks 1-3: Environmental scan of other similar initiatives to determine the best practices/approaches. Select a minimum of 12 potential topics for consideration that might be of interest to the audience and are doable from a research perspective.

Week 3: Proposal due

Weeks 4-12: Research content and images and draft pictorial packages, and work on final paper

Week 6: First collection of weekly Reflections is due covering weeks 1-5

Week 12: Second collection of weekly Reflections is due covering weeks 6-10

Week 13: Document Analysis is due

Articles will be submitted at various points over the semester and meetings will be held with the Professor and Ms. Adkin.

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.