UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH  
HISTORY DEPARTMENT  
WINTER 2018

HIST*3480 - WORKPLACE LEARNING: CFRU Radio  
Instructor: Linda Mahood lmahood@uoguelph.ca  
Workplace Supervisor: Chris Currie, Programming Director, CFRU,  
cfru.programming@gmail.com

Interested students should contact: Linda Mahood, lmahood@uoguelph.ca

Experiential Learning Opportunity: CFRU Radio

CFRU Radio, the University of Guelph’s radio station, has several boxes’ worth of historical recordings in the McLaughlin Library’s Archives & Special Collections. Some of these have been catalogued, but most have not – and all of the recordings are only available on older analogue media. CFRU would like to change this situation. This is where you come in.

You will be responsible for reviewing, digitizing, and writing short commentaries for a selection of locally produced CFRU materials in the archives. You will also be responsible for presenting some of these materials to a new listenership by hosting an “Archives Spotlight” program on CFRU.

We anticipate that the “Archives Spotlight” will begin partway through the term and that each episode will take about 2 to 4 hours of preparatory time. The time of the program is negotiable, though each episode should be either 30 or 60 minutes in length. If all goes as planned, there should be 8-10 episodes produced over the course of the winter term. All digitizing of the source materials will take place at CFRU, and all required training sessions will be provided by CFRU and/or Archives & Special Collections in the McLaughlin Library.

Through this course, you will learn skills in radio hosting, file transfers, and editing, and be able to familiarize yourself with little-known aspects of University of Guelph life from past decades. You will also be responsible for a final research paper on some aspect of radio history in Canada.

Methods of Evaluation and Weights:

- Digitizing and annotations: 20%
- Weekly Critical Reflections: 15%
- Archives Spotlight program: 35%
- Final Essay/Document Analysis: 30%

No Required Textbook
Learning Outcomes:

1. Critical understanding of the role of independent media in Ontario.
2. Critical understanding of U of G student and activist history.
3. Knowledge of digitization process.
4. Knowledge of sound editing.
5. Ability to communicate compelling history for use in a social media platform.
6. Knowledge of structuring and hosting radio programs
7. Appreciation for public engagement
8. Ability to critically reflect upon your own work.

Course Format: Independent work with scheduled meetings.

Project Timeline

Week 1: Pre-arranged meeting with the instructor, Kris Inwood, and a CFRU representative to review the framework of the project. Training on CFRU equipment. Begin assessing the collection and selecting material to feature.

Week 2: Meeting with a CFRU representative. Discussion of first materials digitized and annotated.

Week 3: Meeting with a CFRU representative to assess selected list for archives program and acquire approval, and to learn about next steps.

Week 5: First program should be ready by this time.

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

Week 10: Meeting to submit your second collection of weekly Reflections covering weeks 6-10, and discuss the final essay/document analysis.

Week 13: Complete Set of archival programs, digitizations, annotations and final essay are due.

*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.