

Memory and Narrative: Navigating Connection & Contention

An Interdisciplinary Conference

March 5 – 7, 2026

Mar. 5—7th, 2026

Thursday Mar. 5th

Please note: all panels of the Conference will be held in Tory 2-58

9:00–9:45 a.m. – registration and coffee social

9:45–10:00 a.m. –opening ceremony

10:00–11:30 a.m. – **Panel: Changing Meanings: Modern Uses of the Distant Past**

Panel chair: Natalie Van Deusen

Ashley Abrahart (University of Alberta) — Turning Back: Orpheus in Ancient Memory and Modern Narratives

David O'Reilly (University of Ottawa) — Hirsute Heathens: Norse Pagan Beard Exemptions as a Modern Historical Fantasy

Kimberly Yang (McGill University)— On curating the memory of a goddess: Digital Media's role in the Politicization of Mazu in Contemporary China

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. –lunch, Tory 2-64

12:30 p.m. –2:00 p.m. – **Panel: Familial Memory, Intimate Histories**

Panel chair: Shannon Stunden Bower

Julia-Rose Miller (University of Saskatchewan) — "Delicate Flowers of Civilization: Perceptions of Indigenous Peoples and the Formation of Settler Femininity"

Casarina Hocevar (Carleton University) — “Making something out of nothing”: remembering community in the oral histories of Italian settlers in mid-20th century, Winnipeg and Edmonton

Ermioni Vlachidou (Simon Fraser University) —Weddings in Between Worlds: Jewish Marital Narratives in Interwar Greece

2:00 to 2:30 p.m. break, coffee social

2:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. **Panel: Diasporic Memories and Narratives**

Panel Chair: Aya Fujiwara

Eduardo Lactaon (University of Alberta) Remembering the homeland: Chronotopes, language, and the Filipino diaspora

Erzsebet Arvay (Wirth Institute / Corvinus University of Budapest) — Memory and Belonging: Stories from the Hungarian Diaspora of Chile

Mariia Burtseva (University of Alberta)—Narrating Belonging: Memory and Queer Ukrainian Diasporic Experience

Friday Mar. 6th

8:30—9:00 a.m. Coffee social

9:00—10:30 **Panel: Women's History Across Historical Contexts**

Panel Chair: Sarah Nickel

Tess Derby (New York University) —The Sex Conference and BCRW: Archiving Controversy, Institutionalizing Feminism

Frida Feng (University of Alberta) —Spirited Memories: Women, Possession, and Voices of the Marginalized

Miranda King (University of Alberta) — The Case for Neaira: Using Social Network Analysis and Critical Fabulation to Examine Slavery in Ancient Greece

10:30—11:00 break, coffee social

11:00—12:30 p.m. **Panel: Lived Religion and Prayer**

Panel Chair: Allan Wright

Uthman Khan (University of Alberta) —Echoes of Devotion: Memory, Embodiment, and Narrative in Qur'ānic Recitation

Ryan Brown (McMaster University) — Precarity in Drought: A 1936 Account of Rain-Prayer from Rural Kochi

Laura Jagelková (Slovak Academy of Sciences) —Lived Religion in Slavic Countries: The Symbolism of the Tree

12:30—2:00 –lunch, Tory 2-64

-Tour of the W. G. Hardy Museum (no registration required) –12:45–1:30

2:00—3:30 p.m. **Panel: Textual Analysis**

Panel chair: Dagmar Wujastyk

Jordan A. Tardif (University of Waterloo) — The Emergence of the Anglo-Saxon Spiritual-Warrior

Abbigail Ketsa (University of Alberta) — Science in Transmission: The Mongolian Conquest of Baghdad's Impact on Islamic Medicine

Osama Ahmad (Brown University) — (Re)imagining the past: Textual Lives and Historical Memory in Lahore's Urdu Bazaar

4:00—5:30 p.m. **Keynote speaker: David Dean (*Distinguished Research Professor, Carleton University*)** – Business 2-09

5:30—8:30 p.m. – **Charcuterie extravaganza** – Tory 2-58

Saturday Mar. 7th

8:30—9:00 a.m. Coffee social

9:00—10:30 – **Panel: Indigenous Organizing, Resistance, and Memory**

Panel Chair: Mckelvey Kelly

Elizabeth Jansen (York University) —The Mennonites of 1930s Namaka Farm: Narratives of Indigeneity, Colonialism, and Ecology

Cara Ginter (University of Manitoba) —Women, Water & Power: Uncovering Indigenous Resistance in the MCEC Environmental Impact Assessment Hearings

Alex Thronson (University of Alberta) — "Our own organization": Attachments and relationships in the early Indian Association of Alberta

10:30—11:00 break, coffee social

11:00—12:30 p.m. – **Panel: Cultural Memory in Ancient and Modern Contexts**

Panel chair: Dominique Reill

Robert Carrusca (Queens University at Kingston) — Autochthonic Apparel: The Recollection and Curation of the Athenian Past through the Caryatids of the Erechtheion

Nolan Orvold (University of Alberta) — "The Colonisation of Memory: Post-Maidan Decommunisation and the Erasure of Eastern Ukraine's 'Third Way'."

Nakita Valerio (University of Alberta) — Keepers of the Qur'an: Story and Narrative Among Women in Rural Morocco

12:30—2:00 –lunch, Tory 2-64

2:00—3:30 p.m. **Panel: Monuments, Museums, and “Museums:” Contested Public History**

Panel Chair: Jeremy Rossiter

Seamus Rudden (University of Alberta) — Reconnecting with Memories of Museum Spaces

Anthony Gallipoli (University of Alberta) — Changing battlefields: The war for memory and narrative

Kendall Acker (University of Alberta) — The Frontierland Thesis: The Ideological Underpinnings and Foundation of Disney’s Frontierland

4:00—6:00 p.m. – **Research Methodologies roundtable** – Business 2-09

-Roundtable participants: Dominique Reill, Yigal Bronner, Alexander Marcus, Mckelvey Kelly

Closing Ceremony at the conclusion of the Roundtable