

Sessions will be held in the Multipurpose Room, 5B.16

***Except for Friday the 7th at 1:00 PM only, in the Theatre*

***Monday to Thursday Continuing Education Sessions- Location 5B.16.**

Dawson College Social Science Week February 3rd to 7th, 2020

Monday, February 3rd

8:30 am

Fashion Industry, Climate Impacts

Kelly Drennan, Founding Executive Director of Fashion Takes Action

**Sponsored by Dawson Sustainability and the Peace Centre*

The fashion industry is one of the world's largest polluters when you factor in the energy and chemicals used to make our clothes, the amount of water required – and polluted – and how much ends up in the landfill or incineration. There is a shift taking place however, as more brands are realizing their role in climate change. Commitments to make fashion circular, improve working conditions, stop deforestation, and stop using fur seem to be making the headlines every week.

But as consumers, we also have a role to play. We need to reduce the amount of clothes we buy, and instead buy quality pieces that are built to last. We need to take better care of our clothes, because loved clothes last. And we need to know what to look for when we do buy something new, because fashion leaders are climate leaders.

10:00 am

Linking Past to Present: The Untold Story of Roma

Dafina Savic, Founder and Executive Director Romanipe

**Sponsored by Peace Centre*

For several centuries now, Romani populations have continued to face persecution, hatred and violence. In many countries, physical walls have been built to separate Roma from non-Roma citizens. Throughout Europe, thousands of Roma families live in segregated and polluted sites on the margins of society and are continuously forcefully evicted from settlements. Although this unfortunate reality has been a fact of life for Roma since their very arrival on the European continent, it is only recently that national and international efforts to combat the situation have been put in place. Yet, despite these measures very few advances have been made with regard to the real situation of Roma on the ground. This presentation will explore the root causes of discrimination against Romani populations worldwide.

11:30 am

Fighting Bill 21

Catherine McKenzie, Lawyer Presently Fighting Bill 21, Former Dawson student

Bill 21, Quebec's new secularism law, prohibits anyone who wears a religious symbol from working as a teacher, police officer or in the court system. The government has invoked the notwithstanding clause to try to insulate its legislation from judicial attack. However, several different legal challenges have been launched against this law. The presentation will describe the approach taken in the ongoing litigation and what's at stake.

1:00 pm

All Access Life: Connecting Individuals with Special Needs to Accessible Resources

Bradley Heaven and Danny O'Connor, Dawson

All Access Life is a non-profit organization founded by Bradley Heaven and Danny O'Connor from Dawson College. Bradley was born with nonverbal spastic Cerebral Palsy and needs someone by his side while attending school. In 2010 Danny started working as Brad's Aide/Shadow. Over the years they've built a very strong bond and have developed a very unique way of communicating. All Access Life was created 2 years ago and is meant to be a community interested in inclusion, accessibility, staying up-to-date with new adaptive tech, breaking stigmas and all around having a good time. The goal of All Access Life is to make this world more accessible by connecting individuals with special needs to all the latest accessible resources hitting the market (technology, apps, resources, videos, etc.). In addition to their website www.allaccesslife.org, Bradley and Danny make YouTube videos educating people on new adaptive products as well as destigmatizing disabilities: www.youtube.com/allaccesslife

2:30 pm

Sexual Violence 101: Turning the Tide on Rape Culture

Valentina Solkin, Social Work Technician at Dawson through the First Year Students' Office

This workshop is will go over various definitions and statistics related to sexual violence. Further topics covered will include consent, the effects of sexual violence, healthy relationships and rape culture. The workshop will provide useful information regarding Dawson's sexual violence policy procedures. The workshop will conclude with an overview of helpful and harmful reactions to disclosures. The workshop is interactive, judgment-free and will include games as well as short videos.

4:00 pm

Wikipedia, Gender Gap, and Bias

*Amber Berson, PhD candidate Queen's University, Leadership team, Art and Feminism Project
Wikipedia*

This presentation will discuss the gender gap and bias that exists on Wikipedia and the work being done to minimize the gap through initiatives such as the *Art and Feminism Project*. It will also serve as a workshop where you will learn how to read and write Wikipedia articles. We will discuss Wiki Commons, Wiki Data and translation. By the end of the workshop you will know how and when to use Wikipedia in an academic context, and what mistakes to avoid.

6:30 pm (*Continuing Education Session)

***Mohawk Girls* Documentary and TV Series – Screenings and Discussion with Tracey Deer**

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre*

Join us for screenings of two iterations of *Mohawk Girls* by Kanien'kehá:ka filmmaker Tracey Deer. *Mohawk Girls* (2004) is a feature-length documentary about three teenage-girls growing up in the Kahnawake Mohawk community, outside of Montreal. Shot over the span of two years, Tracey Deer, takes viewers into the lives of these girls and offers a surprising inside look at Native youth culture in the 21st century. Following this, we will screen the first episode of *Mohawk Girls* the television series (2014), a comedic look at the lives of four modern-day women trying to stay true to their roots while they navigate sex, work, love, and the occasional throw down. This is life on the reserve like you've never seen it before – modern, tough, and funny. Depicting many of the same conflicts experienced by all Canadian cultures, *Mohawk Girls* highlights the struggle to find a balance between love, romance and identity on one hand, and preserving a culture on the other. A discussion with Tracey Deer will follow the screenings during which students will have the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the director's creation process, the main themes of her work, and the challenges of deploying different formats to reach different audiences.

Tuesday, February 4th

8:30 am

Feminism at the Highest Level? Queens of England and Scotland in the 16th Century

Michael Wasser, Dawson History Faculty

In the Sixteenth Century women were barred from participation in public life. They could not attend or teach at a university, they could not hold a position with public authority such as a judge, nor could they serve on a jury or vote in an election. Yet they could occupy the position of highest power in the land: that of monarch. There was one Queen of Scotland (Mary, queen of Scots) and two queens of England (Mary I and Elizabeth I) in the sixteenth century, as well as Mary of Guise, who was the mother of Mary queen of Scots and who served as her regent. I will look at why this was possible in such a patriarchal society, and also some of the reactions to it, especially John Knox's book, *The First Blast of the Trumpet against the Monstrous Regiment of Women*.

10:00 am

Cabot Square and Resilience: A Panel Discussion on Addressing Homelessness in the Neighbourhood Surrounding Dawson.

Nakuset, Director of Native Women's Shelter

David Chapman, Resilience Montreal

Sheila Woodhouse, Director of Nazareth Community

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre, the Child Studies Profile, Journey's and the Peace Centre*

Nakuset (Native Women's Shelter), David Chapman (Resilience Montreal), and Sheila Woodhouse (Nazareth Community) will be discussing the opening of the new homeless shelter, Resilience, just a block away from Dawson College, on the corner of De Maisonneuve and St. Catherine street. The shelter opened as a response to the growing crisis around Cabot square concerning the death of 14 homeless people in the past year. This talk will discuss the Cabot Square crisis, the opening of Resilience, and the challenges that the new shelter will have trying to survive in a rapidly changing neighbourhood. As a campus in the middle of the same neighbourhood, it's important to think of the role that Dawson (students, teachers and administrators alike) can play in supporting this local community.

11:30 am

Us vs Them – Creating the Other

Dr Mathieu Forcier, Human Rights Coordinator Montreal Holocaust Museum

This presentation will examine othering and genocidal processes based on two case studies (the Holocaust and the Genocide of the Rohingyas in Myanmar). By studying the ways in which dominant groups resort to mechanisms of othering to exclude, discriminate and persecute minority groups, we can better understand how the construction of the Other is a necessary condition for racist discrimination and the early stages of genocide. Through the presentation of artifacts, timelines and survivor testimonies, students will learn more about the process of genocide and its human consequences. The lecture also offers ways to analyze and fight othering today, at local and international levels.

1:00 pm

Challenges and Opportunities of Ethnic Minority Business Development

Azra Khan, Dawson Coordinator of Professional Development

Fabienne Cyrius, Dawson Faculty, Business Administration

**Sponsored by Human Resources, through MEES Programme Soutien à l'intégration des communautés culturelles et à l'éducation interculturelle au collégial*

This session will offer candid conversation with socially responsible and cultural community business leaders including Nina Gupta (Greenlite); Akilah Newton (Bright Confetti Media); and Amanda Nogueira & Elvira Moonien (Agence Artreat). These brave change makers will share their innovation story, answer your questions on starting up, and how they used their college competencies.

2.30 pm

Stressed Out? Tips from the Pros to Help you Manage Your Workload and Your Anxiety

Anna Maczewska, Dawson Academic Skills Centre

Patrick Bennett, Dawson Academic Skills Center

Lisa Courte, Dawson Counselling

Erin Dunne, Dawson Counselling

Reported anxiety among cegep students is on the rise. Dawson College counsellors and Academic Skills will present on this topic and will offer suggestions regarding how to cope with the stress that comes with balancing life, work and school.

4:00 pm

At Home in the Anthropocene: Redirecting Environmental Anxiety

Geoffrey Pearce, Dawson Faculty, Geography

A commission of some of the world's top geologists is debating whether Earth's time-scale should be updated to show that we are living in a new epoch: the anthropocene. While this debate unfolds, the anthropocene has become a frequent subject of research in the social sciences and humanities, and has also appeared in popular books, movies, and music. Why has this concept gained so much attention outside of its originating discipline? In this presentation I will discuss how the anthropocene embodies the anxiety tied to a range of environmental problems, such as climate change and species extinction, as well as the sense that humanity's influence on Earth is similar to a powerful and often disturbing geological force. I will conclude by outlining some ideas for how this scale of influence can be redirected towards more desirable trends.

6:30 pm (*Continuing Education Session)

The Oka Crisis Thirty Years Later: Screening and Discussion with Celebrated Documentary Filmmaker *Alanis Obomsawin*

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre*

Join us for a special screening of the ground-breaking documentary *Kanehsatake: 270 Years* to mark the 30th anniversary of the Oka Crisis. In July 1990, a dispute over a proposed golf course to be built on Kanien'kéhaka (Mohawk) lands in Oka, Quebec, set the stage for a historic confrontation that would grab international headlines and sear itself into the Canadian consciousness. Director Alanis Obomsawin—at times with a small crew, at times alone—spent 78 days behind Kanien'kéhaka lines filming the armed standoff between protestors, the Quebec police and the Canadian army. Released in 1993, this landmark documentary has been seen around the world, winning over a dozen international awards and making history at the Toronto International Film Festival, where it became the first documentary ever to win the Best Canadian Feature award. Jesse Wenté, Director of Canada's Indigenous Screen Office, has called it a “watershed film in the history of First Peoples cinema.” A discussion of the film and the events of the Oka Crisis in the company of distinguished filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin will follow the screening. Students will thus have the rare opportunity to exchange directly with Ms. Obomsawin on the subject of her film and of her experience documenting this influential work during the pivotal incidents at Oka.

Wednesday, February 5

8:30 am

Dawson College's Commitment to Carbon-neutrality

Richard Dugas, Dawson Facilities Management on Sustainability

**Sponsored by Dawson Sustainability Office*

This talk will explore the ways in which Dawson produces greenhouse gas emissions and what has been done to reduce them while explaining what is meant by ‘carbon-neutral’. It will then propose further ways these may be reduced and present some of the obstacles in doing so. In conclusion, the presenter will ask questions about what could be done to reach students and staff about reducing their emissions and how we can, as a community, begin thinking and talking about climate change adaptation.

10:00 am

Refugee Boulevard

Nancy Rebelo, Dawson History Faculty

Stacey Zembryzki, Dawson History Faculty

Ester Andor, Montreal Holocaust Museum

Thomas Strausser, Holocaust Survivor

Between 1947 and 1955, Montreal became home to the world's third largest community of Holocaust survivors outside of Europe. Tommy Strasser, a war orphan from Czechoslovakia, will share his early experiences of settling into the city while Stacey Zembryzki and Nancy Rebelo, both teachers at Dawson College, and Eszter Andor, Commemorations and Oral History Coordinator at the Montreal Holocaust Museum, will speak about bringing survivors' stories to life in a new interactive audio tour, refugeeboulevard.ca, that allows participants to walk in the footsteps of orphaned Holocaust survivors who began rebuilding their lives in Montreal in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

11:30 am

Mohawk (Kanien'keha) Language

Konwatsitsawi Phillips, Mohawk Language Teacher

**Sponsored by The First People's Center*

The Mohawk language, or Kanien'keha language, is spoken by many natives in Ontario, Quebec and New York. It is a polysynthetic language which means that words are composed of many small parts to create meaning. This session will look at the origins of the Mohawk language and will, for the most part, focus on teaching beginners the basics of pronunciation in Mohawk (alphabet + sounds, how to pronounce names, how to say hello, how are you, etc). Part of the presentation will discuss the importance of teaching Kanien'keha language and some means used to do that such as puppets.

1:00 pm

A Teacher's Journey into City Politics

Pierre L'Heureux, Dawson College Faculty, Borough Councilor Verdun

Since November 2013 when he was first elected borough councilor in Verdun, Dawson College history teacher Pierre L'Heureux has been meandering through city politics and government with much amazement, some exasperation and, above all, with the curiosity and the critical eye of a historian. Come discover with citizen-historian Pierre the power and deceptions of local democracy, the thrills and shortcomings of civic engagement, the fruitful and strained relationship between elected officials and municipal bureaucracies, the pitfalls of political proximity and social media, the world of handshakes and *cheeze whiz* sandwiches *pas-de-croûte* (*s.v.p.!*), of small talks and gleaming urban visions where small actions can lead to big changes.

2:30 pm

What Does a Decision Become in the Era of Artificial Intelligence?

Dr Nicole Rigillo, Berggruen Research Fellow based at Element AI in Montreal

*Sponsored by S.P.A.C.E

AI is now being used to augment and replace human decision-makers of all kinds: an HR representative screening a job applicant, a judge assessing a prisoner's bail request, or an immigration agent issuing a visa, for example. Concerns about fairness, transparency, and safety has led to legislation demanding that decision-making AI be explainable, both to users and those affected by algorithmic decisions. This has in turn led to a surge in interest in the sub-field of machine learning known as explainability. Drawing on case studies and interviews with members of Element AI's explainability team, I show how explainability experts encode notions of trust, accountability, and bias as they produce systems intended to make AI-powered decision-making more comprehensible and actionable to humans. For decision-making AI to be ethical and trustworthy, engineers and regulators must better account both for the differences in human and machine forms of intelligence, as well as for the conceptual shifts that accompany the development of AI systems capable of autonomously making decisions about us.

4:00 pm

Eco-Anxiety

Dr. Joseph L. Flanders, McGill University

**Sponsored by the Psychology Profile*

The American Psychological Association (APA) defines eco-anxiety as “a chronic fear of environmental doom”. As the definition suggests, eco-anxiety is not a response to an acute event, but a state of mind that arises gradually as we watch the slow and frightening consequences of climate change unfold. Eco-anxiety can manifest in intense worry and rumination, generalized anxiety, insomnia, panic attacks, feelings of sadness, loss, guilt, hopelessness, and irritability – in other words, symptoms of anxiety and depression.

The key to coping with eco-anxiety is to build psychological resilience. That is to say climate change is happening right now and it is affecting people all over the world. We all need to find a way to be with the difficult emotions that arise in consequence *and* continue to be engaged with the process of finding a solution.

6:30 pm (*Continuing Education Session)

***nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up* – Screening and Discussion**

Autumn Godwin, Concordia University

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre*

Join us for screening and discussion of *nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up* (2019) by Cree filmmaker Tasha Hubbard. This feature-length documentary presents the events and consequences of August 9, 2016, when a young Cree man named Colten Boushie died from a gunshot to the back of his head after entering the rural property of Gerald Stanley with his friends. The jury's subsequent acquittal of Stanley captured international attention, raising questions about racism embedded within Canada's legal system and propelling Colten's family to national and international stages in their pursuit of justice. Sensitively directed by Tasha Hubbard, *nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up* weaves a profound narrative encompassing the filmmaker's own adoption, the stark history of colonialism on the Prairies, and a vision of a future where Indigenous children can live safely on their homelands. A discussion of the film with Autumn Godwin will follow the screening. Ms. Godwin is a student at Concordia University and a member of the First Peoples Studies Member Association, and has also been a board member of the Native Women's Shelter for the past three years. Ms. Godwin has generously agreed to share her experience of the events depicted in Tasha Hubbard's film from the perspective of an Indigenous student living in Saskatchewan. Students will thus have the opportunity to become more informed and ask questions about the context surrounding this incident.

Thursday, February 6th

8:30 am

Cuba under the Embargo -

North South students reflect on their recent trip

This is the second year that North South students have visited Cuba. After completing 18 months of study focused on issues concerning the developing world, and on Cuban history and its contemporary reality, they will spend three weeks on a field research trip in Cuba visiting several locations, meeting Cubans, attending cultural events, and attending seminars and conferences on a multitude of topics concerning Cuban history and present-day Cuba.

Cuba has been under a U.S.-instituted trade embargo for about 60 years, which at times has made life very difficult for Cubans. But in recent months, the Trump government has hardened the embargo, making it even more difficult for Cubans to obtain essential goods like medications, medical supplies and even items like shampoo or deodorant.

As they explore Cuban culture, history and current concerns of Cubans, North South students will also witness the difficulties Cubans face today. The student panel presentation will discuss their trip and also reflect on the challenges Cubans face with the Trump embargo.

10:00 am

Environmental Seminar -

Environmental change and behavioural flexibility: Japanese monkeys and disability on Awaji Island, Japan

Sarah Turner, Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, Concordia University

What does it mean for an animal to have a physical disability? As human-induced environmental change increasingly impacts species and ecosystems in every part of the world, understanding behavioural flexibility and how animals cope with challenges can point to the selection pressures animals face and help us develop conservation strategies. Physical disabilities can drive wild and free-ranging animals to adjust their behaviours in order to solve daily challenges associated with survival, social living and reproduction. A group of Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata*) on Awaji Island, Japan, provides a unique opportunity to examine behavioural flexibility and disability-associated behaviours in a free-ranging nonhuman primate species. Since 1967, about 16% of infants have been born with physical disabilities in the form malformations of the limbs and digits. In this seminar, I will tell the story of the Awajishima monkeys and illustrate it by presenting some data on two detailed examples of Japanese macaque behavioural flexibility – grooming and feeding styles.

Sarah Turner has studied Japanese macaques and disability for the last 20 years at the Awajishima Monkey Center in Japan, starting with an independent study project as an undergraduate student. She holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Calgary (2010), was an FRQNT postdoctoral fellow in Biology at McGill, and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment at Concordia University.

***12:00 – 2:00 pm – 5B.16 -**

Baggage: Film Screening

Followed by Q & A with Paul Tom, Director

An award-winning documentary film, *Baggage* opens the stage and turns the spotlight on newly arrived teenage immigrants studying at Paul-Gérin-Lajoie-d'Outremont High School in Montréal. Through drama workshops, theatre production and deeply personal interviews, the film gives voice to their stories of immigration and integration. Their accounts move between an "elsewhere" and a "before" to become a "here and now". With a wisdom well beyond their years that will leave no one unmoved, these students share poignant narratives about their journeys with compelling emotion and a disarming level of authenticity.

2:30 pm

Women and Leadership

Kim Manning, Principal of Simon de Beauvoir Institute at Concordia University

**Sponsored by Law, Society, and Justice Profile*

Last fall Canadians elected a record number of women to Parliament. Indeed, we set a record by electing 98 women (or 28.9% of the seats). The fact is, however, that while the percentage of women in parliament has slowly inched up over the past couple of decades, we are much worse off if we look at these numbers in comparative perspective. Indeed, many developing countries have much higher percentages of women in national office than does Canada. Why is this? In this talk I will examine some of the international trends that have led to big jumps in women's representation in the global South, and why Canada lags behind. Particular attention will be given to the challenges that face poorer women and women who are visible minorities in their aspirations to become members of Parliament in Canada today.

4:00 pm

Media, Politics and Culture: A conversation with Yolande James

Yolande James, Lawyer, Mediator and Political Commentator

**Sponsored by Law, Society, and Justice Profile*

Lawyer, political pundit and former Quebec Cabinet Minister, Yolande James will offer her perspective on the contemporary state of media, politics and the English-speaking community in Quebec. She will draw on her experience as Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities at the height of the highly contentious Reasonable Accommodation debate in 2007, and as Minister of Families where she overhauled the governance for subsidized daycare spots that are critically important to working families, as well as her experience as the first Black female Member of the National Assembly, as well as Quebec's first Black Cabinet Minister. Students are encouraged to come with questions.

6:30 pm (*Continuing Education Session)

Indigenous Cultural Revitalization: Screenings of *Cry Rock* and *Tuunniit: Retracing the Lines of Inuit Tattoos*

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre*

Join us for the screening of two award-winning Indigenous films tackling the issue of cultural preservation and revitalization. First, we will screen *Cry Rock* (Banchi Hanuse, 2010), a short personal documentary dealing with difficult decisions about the recording of traditional knowledge for future generations. Following this, we will screen *Tuunniit: Retracing the Lines of Inuit Tattoos* (2016), an incredibly personal, poignant and political documentary from Inuk filmmaker Alethea Arnaquq-Baril. Inuit traditional face tattoos have been forbidden for a century, and almost forgotten. Arnaquq-Baril, together with long-time friend and activist Aaju Peter, is determined to uncover the mystery and meaning behind this beautiful ancient tradition. Together they embark on an adventure through Arctic communities, speaking with elders and recording the stories of a once popularized female art form. Past meets present in this intimate account of one woman's journey towards self-empowerment and cultural understanding.

Friday, February 7th

8:30 am

Millennials and Boomers: Career prospects in a Changing Landscape

Nathalie Francisci, entrepreneur and partner at Odgers Berndtson

Léa Francisci, Concordia U.

Sponsored by the International Business Profile

The labour market is changing. As Baby Boomers pass on responsibilities to younger generations, what can Millennials expect from their careers? What should you expect from Corporate Montreal? What skills and competencies are employers looking for?

10:00 am

Reclaiming Indigenous Stories, Reclaiming Indigenous Narratives

*Wayne Robinson, *Unceded Identities**

TBC

**Sponsored by First Peoples' Centre*

11:30 am

Tracking Black Canada

Overture with the Arts

**Sponsored by Campus Life and Leadership*

This presentation will focus on the often-forgotten histories of early black communities across our country. Using OWTA's trademark edutainment style that combines video, music, Slam Poetry, Hip Hop, stand-up comedy, and audience participation/ interaction, *Tracking Black Canada* will delve into the histories of some of Canada's forgotten black communities. The presentation will highlight the contributions made by prominent residents in those communities, and how their impact is still felt today, and illuminate the conditions that led to their systemic demise.

The presentation will flow from the East Coast of Canada all the way to the West, paying special attention to the role Canadian railway played in both the geographic and economic lives of blacks in Canada. Potential *Tracking Black Canada* subjects include: Africville, Nova Scotia; The Ward, Toronto; Little Burgundy, Montreal; Hogan's Alley, Vancouver; Amber Valley, Alberta.

***1:00 pm Location: Dawson Theatre**

Peace 365's Panel Discussion on Peace & Self

Ivan Freud, Dawson Religion Faculty

**Sponsored by the Peace Centre*

This panel discussion, although included in Social Science Week, is also part of the Peace 365 complementary course taught by Ivan Freud from the Religious Studies Department. The course fosters an inter-disciplinary approach to the exploration of both peace practices and peace studies. The first of this year's Peace Panels on Friday the 7th of February from 1:00 - 2:15PM, will host three professors sharing their disciplinary perspectives on Peace & Self. Everyone is welcome!

The other two aspects of peace will be presented later in the semester as part of the Peace 365 course. Future Peace Panels will cover the topics of **Peace & Other on Friday the 6th of March** and on **Peace & Nature on Friday the 17th of April**. All are welcome!

THE END!