



# ARC 2011

Ambrose Research Conference

March 28, 2011

AMBROSE







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# schedule

**Session One**

8:30 - 9:30

**Panel**

Panel 1 - Senior Student Research in Literature

**Room**

A2112

Panel 2 - Behavioural Science and the Individual:  
Music, Addictions, and Motivation

A2133

Panel 3 - New Research in Music

A2141

9:30 - 9:45

Coffee Break (refreshments provided in the Fish)

**Session Two**

9:45 - 10:45

Panel 4 - New Research in History

A2131

Panel 5 - Graduate Student and Professorial Research  
in Literature

A2133

Panel 6 - New Research in Biology

A2141

10:45 - 11:00

Coffee Break (refreshments provided in the Fish)

**Session Three**

11:00 - 12:00

Panel 7 - New Research in Biblical Studies  
and Theology

A2131

Panel 8 - Research and the Life of Mind as  
Creative Writing: Student Authors

A2133

Panel 9 - Historiography Symposium:  
Scholarship of Integration

A2141

**Plenary Session**

12:05 - 12:55

Ambrose Faculty Panel Discussion: Reflections  
on Research/Scholarly Activity

A2133





# program

## Session One

*Panel 1*  
*Senior Student*  
*Research in*  
*Literature*

*Chair: Tim Heath*

**Unraveling the Web:**  
 Constructing the Loss  
 of Medieval Society in  
 Tennyson's "The Lady  
 of Shalott"

*Tawny Buhler*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2212*

Critical habit typically makes Alfred Tennyson's "The Lady of Shalott" into an allegory for the general Victorian attitude towards artists. By working through the poem systematically, this paper interprets "The Lady of Shalott" to show the ways in which it reflects England's shift from a medieval society to an industrial one. The poem mourns the loss of the idealistic Arthurian world that the members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood looked to emulate in their works.

**Fire in the  
 Dove-neck:**

Marianne Moore's  
 "The Mind" and the  
 Mind's Ability to  
 Change

*Celine Ibsen*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2212*

In her poem entitled "The Mind is an Enchanting Thing," Marianne Moore sets herself the metaphysical task of describing the mind and its function. For Moore, the mind works in a mysterious fashion; she likens it to a brilliant pianist re-interpreting a celebrated composer, a kiwi bird hunting for its dinner, a gyroscope achieving centric balance as its parts move in eccentric circuits, and the Holy Spirit descending on Christ at the transfiguration. Moore's description of the mind's function unites intuition and logic on a continuum. Poised between these two ways of knowing, Moore sees the mind's flexibility as its defining characteristic.





# program

*Panel 2*  
**Behavioural Science  
 and the Individual:  
 Music, Addictions,  
 and Motivation**  
*Chair: Alex  
 Sanderson*

## Session One

### **Citizen Science:**

What Our Music  
 Can Tell Us about  
 Ourselves

*Joshua Hemeon*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2133*

Individual music preferences have been considered by researchers in the field of psychology of music as a potential indicator of personality traits classified under the Five Factor Model (FFM). Similarly, daily uses of music by individuals (mood regulation, cognitive appreciation, and background) have also been correlated with individual personality traits. Studies have also suggested that music can shape social identity in a way that could potentially serve as a remedy for inter-group conflict. This paper reviews studies that report correlations between music preferences and personality traits. Additionally, it examines studies that claim to establish relationship between music preference, antisocial behaviour, and mental health issues. The notion that music preference/use may be used as additional indicators of individual's personality alongside standard issue personality tests is discussed and the implications of music in the development of personality are considered.

### **Sweat Lodges and Smudges:**

Spiritual Aids to  
 Addictions Recovery  
 for the Aboriginal  
 Male

*Samantha Hung*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2133*

An understanding of the role of spirituality in addictions recovery may be beneficial when considering how to maximize recovery resources for Aboriginal males. Thus, the purpose of this study was to gain a better understanding of the intersection between spirituality and addictions especially how contextualized spiritual practices may aid in recovery for Aboriginal males. Three open-ended interviews were conducted to determine the participants' experiences of sweat ceremonies and smudging during and after a period of addiction to drugs and/or alcohol. After an analysis, major themes of purification/cleansing, teaching/guidance and protection were found to be present.

### **Motivated Athletic Behaviour:**

An Interpretation

*Margo Eileen Killham*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2133*

This paper aims to identify and interpret what directed athletic motivational behaviour looks like in practice. Through a case study, four female individuals were followed through a goal setting process from initiation through to completion or abandonment. This qualitative research process used two major forms of data collection: interview and active participant observation. The results show that the female athletes studied set similar goals and experienced similar variables that hindered or helped their progression towards these goals. This might suggest that female athletes in team sports may have a pattern of directed athletic behaviours.





# program

## Session One

*Panel 3  
New Research in  
Music*

*Chair: Don Quantz*

**Ragtime & Stride  
Piano:**  
Origins and  
Popularization

*Kathleen Serquina*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2241*

Ragtime music is only the beginning of representing America's musical history. Early Jazz categorizes Ragtime as a sub-genre, however it should be considered an Era. Ragtime follows an evolutionary timeline: Early Ragtime, Popular Ragtime, Advanced Ragtime and Novelty Ragtime. Each of these categories leaves a lasting impression which shapes the individuality of Jazz while integrating musical themes from Western Civilization.

**The Composition  
Process**

*Ian R. Charter*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2241*

What are some requirements for a budding composer who wishes to write—perhaps publish— their own works of music? This session will explore some suggestions for following that journey with musical integrity and purpose. I will follow the process from its original germ idea in the mind of the composer all the way to its final submission to a publisher, delving briefly into the compositional support that is available through computer notation programs, specifically Finale Music.

**From Rebel to Icon:**  
Reinventing the  
Electric Guitar

*Brad Mahon*

*Time: 8:30 – 9:30*

*Room: A2241*

The past thirty years have witnessed the electric guitar evolve from unwritten traditions and an orally transmitted culture to an increasing presence within academic discourse, from musical instrument to cultural artifact, and from a largely self-taught basis of learning to a formalized pedagogy managed by conservatory programs and universities in North America. My research examines the progression of how the electric guitar has reinvented itself over these more recent decades—reinvented its public image, cultural value, systems of pedagogy, commercial worth, and even its repertoire—in light of a movement towards a formalization, or institutionalization, on numerous different levels.

**Break**

(refreshments provided in the Fish)

*Time: 9:30 – 9:45*



# program

*Panel 4  
New Research in  
History*

*Chair: Kyle Jantzen*

## *Session Two*

### **Psychosurgery outside the United States, 1936-1960**

*Brianne Collins*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

In the early 20th century, there was increasing pressure on physicians to find effective ways of treating individuals with a variety of mental illnesses where the only method of treatment had been housing patients in asylums. This led to the development of four somatic treatments in the 1930s: insulin coma therapy, metrazol shock therapy, electroconvulsive shock therapy, and psychosurgery. The development and use of psychosurgery is often discussed in terms of the work of Walter Freeman of the United States. Although the United States served to popularize the procedure, other countries contributed to its worldwide development and use. Understanding how the treatment was used, promoted, and then gradually abandoned outside the United States will provide a broader and more accurate context for understanding this important time in the history of psychiatry.

### **Anglo-Ashanti Relationship in the Nineteenth Century:**

*A Case of  
Colonization  
Reconsidered*

*Elliot Enns*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

Traditional views of British colonialism considered the emergence of British colonies as a natural consequence of British superiority over native peoples. Even later, however, commentators often assumed the passivity of native peoples and wrote as if the rise of British control was all but inevitable. This paper examines several nineteenth-century treaties between the British and Ashanti, arguing that the Ashanti were—early in the nineteenth century—a formidable political rival with imperial ambitions of their own in the Gold Coast. Moreover, the gradual growth of British authority in the region was largely unintentional, a response to changing conditions throughout the century.

### **Will no one heed their cry?**

*Developments in the  
Canadian Christian  
Responses to Nazi  
Persecution of the  
Jews 1938-1939*

*Jonathan Durance*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

On November 9/10, 1938 Jews in Nazi Germany were attacked, their synagogues burned, and their places of business destroyed. At the same time, Canada's immigration policy remained closed to almost any Jewish émigrés. Over the next 10 months the Christian response in Canada went from explosive protest to organizational activity to frustrated indignation at both the official church and government responses to the plight of the Jews.

# program

*Panel 5  
Graduate Student  
and Professorial  
Research in  
Literature*

*Chair: Tim Heath*

## *Session Two*

### **"No One But A Pre-Raphaelite":**

Representation,  
Sensation, and  
Realism in Mary  
Elizabeth Braddon's  
Lady Audley's Secret

*Sarah Poffenroth*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

This paper argues that Braddon's narrator puts into practice what the Pre-Raphaelites attempt on canvas; both perform a species of realist representation, but their realism bases itself upon what Marcia Werner calls "the mimetic and the visionary" intertwined (139). Specifically in regards to place, plot, and character, the novel offers up a narrative that grounds itself precisely where the Pre-Raphaelites locate their artistic theory.

### **Speaking the Embrace:**

Erin Moure's Ethics of  
Contact

*Beth Gripping*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

Throughout her work—from *Empire, York Street* in 1979 to *O Resplendor* in 2010—Canadian poet Erin Moure argues that prevailing social, economic, and linguistic structures obscure or, even, sever the links between humans and, thus, "constitute us as separate, clearly bordered, self-enclosed" (*My Beloved* 90). For Moure, this rigid separation between self and other enforces distinctions—indeed, hierarchies—of class, gender, and ethnicity and often results in the violent exclusion of "women, blacks, First Nations, lesbians, working class, immigrants, combinations of all these" (*My Beloved* 26). In her recent poetry, Moure not only depicts alienation and exclusion but also attempts to overcome this division by offering an ethics of contact. Touch—literal and figurative contact—gestures toward an alternative form of engagement, where, according to Moure, humans might begin to "meet, and match, and recognize each other" ("*I'll Start*" 14). My paper will discuss selected examples from Moure's work—particularly *Search Procedures* (1996)—to demonstrate the ways in which Moure uses images of physical, social, and linguistic contact to "break those boundaries of exclusivity" ("*I'll Start*" 13).

### **Criticizing Her Own Kind:**

Mennonite Culture  
in Miriam Toews's  
*A Complicated  
Kindness*

*Rita Dirks Heath*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

Miriam Toews's *A Complicated Kindness* (2004) tells the story of Nomi Nickel, a sixteen-year-old Mennonite girl, living in the fictional East Village, Manitoba, in the 1980s. East Village is based on a real town in southern Manitoba called Steinbach, where Mennonite culture remains segregated from the rest of the world to protect its distinctive Anabaptist Protestantism. Toews's book is highly successful, for it was a Giller Prize finalist, a winner of Canada's Governor General's Award, as well as a national bestseller and the recipient of utterly honorific critical praise. A commonplace has emerged that figures Nomi as a kind of Holden Caulfield who exposes the phoniness of her own Mennonite culture. Toews's most powerful iconoclastic work results from her intimate knowledge of Low German and the Mennonite way of life; in her novel, she reveals Nomi's struggle with the punishing mores of that culture in the young girl's formative experiences. This paper places on view the tension between Nomi's identification with her own culture and the disowning of it, as it disowns her through the Mennonite tradition of shunning.



# program

## Session Two

*Panel 6  
New Research in  
Biology*

*Chair: Carol Kroeker*

### **Bio-remediation**

*William Weatherall*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

The purpose of this study was to isolate, identify, and characterize a petroleum-degrading bacteria and to test its degradation abilities. These properties were compared to typical indigenous soil bacteria. The process of bio-remediation will be discussed.

### **The Articulation of the Equine Skeleton**

*Heidi Banman and  
Katherine Bowler*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

*Room: A2131*

This talk will discuss the procedures used to articulate a thoroughbred horse skeleton. It will also discuss the anatomical differences between a bipedal plantigrade human and a digitigrade ungulate such as the horse, and why these are advantageous to cursorial running.

### **The Effects of Organic Colon Cleanses on Gut Function and Motility**

*Alyssa Alger*

*Time: 9:45 – 10:45*

This study examined the effect of three different organic colon cleanses on both small and large intestinal function in mice, by determining gut movement, production and absorption, and possible inflammation. Total weight loss or gain was compared to product claims.

### **Break**

*Time: 10:45 – 11:00*

(refreshments provided in the Fish)



# program

*Panel 7  
New Research in  
Biblical Studies and  
Theology*

*Chair: Arch Wong*

## *Session Three*

**Maintaining the  
Jesus Tradition:**  
the Development of  
the New Testament  
Canon

*Samuel Lippitt*

*Time: 11:00 – 12:00*

*Room: A2131*

This paper investigates the development of the New Testament canon from the apostolic age until the end of the fourth century, when a fixed list of twenty seven books was designated as authoritative Scripture. This paper argues, contrary to the opinion of many modern scholars, that the New Testament canon was not created out of fourth century political motives, but rather that it arose out of an established tradition within the early church that held the life, death, and resurrection of Christ as the defining aspect of its faith.

**Religion beyond  
the Church:**  
The Impact of  
Cyberspace on  
Human Spirituality

*Bill McAlpine*

*Time: 11:00 – 12:00*

*Room: A2131*

Very few who benefit from current technology wish that such advancement had never occurred. The rapidity with which technological advances have occurred leaves the average person hopelessly behind in the relentless challenge to stay current. Advances in the new frontier of cyberspace far outstrip the ability of Western lawmakers to regulate and set legal parameters, within which such technology needs to operate. But to what degree does the current reign of cyber reality impact the average person's spirituality? This paper addresses and assesses the impact of the relatively recent upsurge of virtual communities and groups that are increasingly available on line. Questions such as the following will be addressed: why are more people deciding to live more of their lives 'on line' than 'off line'? Does cyber-spirituality in fact foster a Gnostic spirituality that ultimately runs the risk of dehumanizing the average spiritual seeker or does it have the rich potential to enhance one's spiritual journey? Does the advent of cyber-spirituality put yet another nail in the coffin of organized religion? Is cyber-spirituality here to stay or is it but a passing fad? The paper will incorporate insights from the social sciences in conversation with perspectives from practical theology.

**Let the Reader  
Understand:**  
Mark's use of  
Jeremiah 7 in  
Mark 13:14

*Rob Snow*

*Time: 11:00 – 12:00*

*Room: A2131*

Scholars have offered a variety of interpretations of 'the abomination that causes desolation' in Mark 13:14. However, none of the proposals, which usually focus on an instance of the profaning activity of the Romans at some point before the Temple's destruction, seem to cohere with Mark's emphasis on the corruption of the Jerusalem Temple and its leadership. This is a dominant issue in the two chapters preceding Mark 13 in which Jeremiah's temple sermon plays a crucial role in developing not only Mark's anti-temple theme but also his negative characterization of the Temple leaders. For instance, on the basis of Mark's first and most obvious use of Jer. 7 in 11:17, the Temple has become a strong hold of national rebellion against Yahweh's rule. Further, allusions to Jer. 7 in Mark 12:1-12, 28-34 and 13:1-2 portray the Temple institution as corrupt, irrelevant, and, consequently, about to face destruction. In light of these inter-textual and inner-textual uses of Jer. 7 in chapters 11-13, Mark continues his evocation of Jer. 7 in 13:14, specifically, verses 30 and 34, so that 'the abomination that causes desolation' is none other than the Temple leaders themselves.



# program

**Panel 8**  
*Research and the  
 Life of Mind as  
 Creative Writing:  
 Student Authors*

**Chair: Tim Heath**

## Session Three

This panel features creative writing from three English students at Ambrose. Each author will read either fiction or poetry currently in progress, and a question period will allow interaction with the authors.

*Shandi Bleiken*

Poetry

*Amy Matychuk*

Collaborative work on a novel length project

*Francesca Nolan*

Poetry

**Time: 11:00 – 12:00**

**Room: A2131**

**Panel 9**  
*Historiography  
 Symposium:  
 Scholarship of  
 Integration*

**Chair: Ken Draper**

**Presenters: Allison  
 Lockhart, Samuel Lam**

**Time: 11:00 – 12:00**

**Room: A2131**

The session highlights the work of upper-year history students to summarize and synthesize key concepts and approaches developed over the course of their history degree. As the capstone course in the history program, Historiography explores the various ways history has been understood and practiced from the ancient Greeks to the present. Drawing on this class, other courses and life experiences, students have been challenged to articulate their understanding of history and how the study of history brings meaning and understanding to deep questions of the human story.

**Ambrose Faculty  
 Panel Discussion:  
 Reflections on  
 Research/Scholarly  
 Activity**

**Chair: Kyle Jantzen**

**Members: Bernie  
 Potvin, Bernie Van De  
 Walle, Jessmi Ling, Joel  
 Thiessen, Don Quantz**

**Time: 12:05 – 12:50**

**Room: A2133**

## Plenary Session

What kinds of research/scholarly activity do Ambrose professors engage in? What are their favourite research stories? What motivates them to research? How does their scholarly activity contribute to Ambrose? These are the questions we'll put to a variety of Ambrose faculty members, as we consider the place of research in the life of our academic community.



