

From the Graduate History Society

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to learn that you have chosen to join our graduate program and am looking forward meeting you this year.

Starting a new program and, for some of you, moving to a new city can be both exciting and potentially stressful. In order to facilitate your transition, the Graduate History Society (GHS) is working with the graduate office to organize the student orientation day that will take place on September 4th. The GHS is also planning other activities during the first week of classes to give you the opportunity of socializing with your new colleagues (see the schedule below for details).

We have included a number of documents that will provide some useful information about living in Toronto, about orientation and about the GHS's activities.

In order to be kept informed of the events organized by the GHS you should join our listserv at your earliest convenience (instructions are included).

Once again, allow me to express my congratulations for your acceptance in our graduate program and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Michael Savage
President of the Graduate History Society
michael.savage@mail.utoronto.ca

Orientation Day

September 10th: Orientation Day, followed by Pub Night (Location TBA)

Note: Specific information about the time and location will be sent on the listserv a few days before the event.

GHS Listserv

The primary GHS listserv is both the official channel of communication for the department, serving all currently enrolled history graduate students, and an informal means of discussion among graduate students.

To add oneself to the list:

Send an email to listserv@listserv.utoronto.ca. (Turn off attachments and signatures.) The message should read:

subscribe GHS-L Firstname Lastname (e.g. subscribe GHS-L James Smith)

Usage and Etiquette Guidelines

As the listserv does not possess a screening or regulatory mechanism, and we believe the introduction of one would be at odds with the principle of open communication underlying the listserv, we ask that you exercise self-control in respecting these guidelines:

- Demonstrate respect and courtesy for colleagues on the listserv, including, expressly, the avoidance of abusive, derogatory language and attacks on individuals.
- Only send messages over the listserv that relate to University of Toronto affairs, the study or practice of history broadly conceived, or graduate student life (including accommodations, furniture for sale, etc.).
- Clearly identify the contents of email messages with descriptive subject lines.

If you have any questions about GHS-L, write to the list owners at the generic address:

GHS-L-request@LISTSERV.UTORONTO.CA

GHS Academic Life

Academic life in the history department isn't limited to the classroom and the library. There are a number of graduate student-run initiatives that provide rewarding opportunities for intellectual and professional development. These are open groups that rely on graduate students for their continued success, so please consider getting involved.

Reading Groups. There are a number of active reading groups operating within the department. Organized around geography (for example, North America, Europe), time period (Pre-Modern, Modern) and/or theme (Gender, Race and Ethnicity), these groups meet regularly throughout the year to listen to presentations and discuss student work. An up-to-date list of active groups will be available at orientation.

The AGHS. The Annual Graduate History Symposium is the yearly conference organized by the grad students in the department. Presenters include MAs and PhDs from U of T as well as those from a variety of both Canadian and international universities. If you are interested in presenting, the call for papers generally circulates in October. The organizing committee also needs volunteers to help ensure the symposium runs smoothly.

Paste Tense. A recent graduate student initiative is our journal, *Paste Tense: Graduate Review of History*. The journal publishes research articles, review articles, and book reviews. The editorial team welcomes submissions or volunteers to serve as editorial assistants.

Welcome to Toronto! Toronto is a vibrant, multicultural city with lots of different and exciting neighbourhoods to explore.

Around the university:

Chinatown/Kensington Market, southwest of College and Spadina.

The Annex, west of campus between College and Dupont.

Little Italy, along College between Bathurst and Ossington.

Further afield:

Trinity-Bellwoods, nearest intersection Dundas and Ossington.

St Clair West, nearest intersection St Clair and Bathurst.

Greektown, along Danforth Ave. between Broadview and Pape.

Cabbagetown, nearest intersection Carlton and Parliament.

The Village, nearest intersection Wellesley and Church.

Leslieville, along Queen St. E between Logan and Alton.

Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) Metropass – ttc.ca

Monthly post-secondary metropasses are on sale at most subway stations for \$104. You can buy them either with cash from the ticket booth or with a debit card from the metropass kiosk. Post-secondary metropasses are valid only with a post-secondary student ID. You can get your ID at Sherbourne station (on the Bloor-Danforth line) for \$5.25 (cash only). You'll need to show your T-card and a copy of your timetable.

If you don't have a metropass, you can buy TTC tokens at any subway of seven for just under \$20. Alternatively, cash fare is \$3 each way.

N.B.: U of T students cannot use regular student metropasses or tickets.

Toronto Apts/Housing

Craigslist apartment/housing listings: <http://toronto.en.craigslist.ca/apa/>

Viewit: <http://www.viewit.ca>

U of T Student Housing, Off-Campus listings:

<http://www.housing.utoronto.ca/rentalHousing.htm>

U of T Family Housing: <http://www.studentfamilyhousing.utoronto.ca/Page31.aspx>

Toronto Community Housing:

http://www.torontohousing.ca/rent_toronto_community_housing

Provincial Services

Service Ontario (to obtain Ontario health card): <http://www.services.gov.on.ca>, Closest location at 777 Bay St

Toronto Life

Eateries and pubs close to U of T:

Duke of York - 39 Prince Arthur Ave

Bedford Academy - 36 Prince Arthur Ave

Pour House - 182 Dupont St

Red Room - 444 Spadina Ave

Green Room - 296 Brunswick Ave

Future Bakery/Bistro - 483 Bloor St West

Nirvana - 434 College St

New Generation Sushi - 493 Bloor St West

Thai Basil - 467 Bloor St West

Harbord House - 150 Harbord St

L'Espresso Bar Mercurio - 321 Bloor St West

Harbord Bakery - 115 Harbord St