## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

### **Environmental Science and Geography**

The environment has always been foundational to the discipline of Geography. As important as ever before, understanding how environmental change and human activities affect our landscape and reshape our future is as critical as it has ever been. Intimately interwoven with Geography, environmental science seeks to understand how human actions impact the earth, from climate change, to species extinctions, to pollutants in our air, our lakes and rivers, and impacts in every corner of our world. We also seek productive solutions to those problems and innovate to make a better and sustainable future. These also represent many of the underlying themes and foci of Geography. It is not surprising then that the Environmental Science program at York is naturally housed within Geography. We are proud of our programs, both in Geography and in Environmental Science, for being highly field-oriented and offering experiential education training, and for arming our graduates with the tools and skills to help bring about the changes and improvements we want to see, in all aspects of our world.

As the coordinator of our Environmental Science program and as our department's biogeographer, I welcome you back to another productive semester at York. I also encourage you to stay informed of what's happening in the department, now easier than ever through various social media outlets to help you stay connected. We also encourage you to take advantage of the resources our department has, such as the GRC (Ross S 403), a wonderful space for Geography and Environmental Science students to study as well as be social. We also have a Geoinformatics Teaching Lab (Ross N302), which is open for students many hours a week (listed each term online) to work on homework and projects, among our many other facilities and resources. We also invite you to get involved with GESS@Y (Geography and Environmental Science Society @ York), a social club organized and run by Geography and Environmental Science students. Activities include off-site day trips and fun on-



campus activities such as game nights, movies and other fun ways to have fun and make new friends, especially in your major, and these are supported financially and subsidized by the Geography Department to help create a welcoming environment in our department for students and to help build a sense of community. York is a big place, but our department offers many opportunities for smaller interactions as well as space for studying. Come by and check us out!

Professor Taly Drezner, Environmental Science Coordinator

### Is Geography Better for You??

Open House for students considering changing their majors or minors to Geography.

Where: GRC Ross S403

When: Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 3pm-5pm

Who: Students and faculty will be there to answer questions you may have about the program.

#### Please stop by and join us!!

If you can't make it, please feel free to make an appointment with the Geography Undergraduate Program Coordinator at geoupd@yorku.ca



Contact Us: Department of Geography Ross N430 416-736-5107 Email: <u>lapsgeog@yorku.ca</u>

Twitter

Facebook

# DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

## Featured Professor Emeritus, John Warkentin



From time to time you may see an older professor in the halls of the Ross Building. John Warkentin was born in Lowe Farm, Manitoba, in 1928. He attended high school there, and in Steinbach, Manitoba. After a B.Sc. (Geology) (1948) and Diploma in Education (1949) from the University of Manitoba, he taught science in a collegiate in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, for two years. In the 1950s he studied geography at the University of Toronto, M.A. (1954), Ph.D. (1961). He taught geography and history for the University of Maryland in US military bases in Newfoundland and Greenland, and geography at United College, Winnipeg, and the University of Manitoba. In 1963 he joined the Department of Geography at York University, from where he retired in 1993. Professor Warkentin has written extensively on the regional geography of

Canada and the development of the study of geography in Canada. He has edited the Canadian Association of Geographers Centennial volume on Canadian Confederation, co-edited the *Historical Atlas of Manitoba*, and was a coordinating editor of the historical atlas of Canada project. He has written on He has received the Massey Medal from the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, the Award for Scholarly Distinction from the Canadian Association of Geographers, honorary degrees from Brandon and York Universities, and is honorary president of the Champlain Society. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and an Officer of the Order of Canada. He is active in the York University Geography Alumni Network (YUGAN) and has generously supported bursaries for geography students.

### WE CONGRATULATE ALL OUR 2018-2019 GEOGRAPHY AWARDS RECIPIENTS!

Undergraduate Recipients Angela Baldesarra	Graduate Recipients Aida Afrazeh
U U	
Sophia Bauco	Kathryn Dennler
Pham Ha Phuong Do	Amy Drury
Sorin-Alexandru Gruia	Amardeep Kaur
Ante Grizelj	Carley MacKay
Gordon Hawks	Bryan Mark
Mandy Huynh	Francis Massé
Allegra lozzo	Thomas McCarthy
Berta Kaisr	Amelia Merhar
Samantha Perry	Ratiba Munir
Emilia Vercillo	Myriam Ouellet
	Roe Rosenberg
	Colin Sutherland
	Mark Therien
	Edward Thomas

## **UPCOMING GESSY EVENTS!!**

Trip to the Royal Ontario Museum February 16, 2019

Please contact thegessay@gmail.com for more information.

Stay tuned for more details about our upcoming events in March including Board Games Night in the GRC and our annual End of Year Celebration!