

# Craig Fortier, PhD

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## Current Position

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### **Assistant Professor, Social Development Studies**

Renison University College (University of Waterloo)

**Areas of Research:** settler colonialism; social movements, popular culture, qualitative methods, abolitionist and decolonizing pedagogy; Indigenous & settler relationships, colonization/decolonization; Indigenous theory; migrant justice movements; nationalism and sovereignty; social work history; and baseball history.

## Degrees

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### **Ph.D. Sociology, York University (2009 – 2015)**

Dissertation: Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles in Settler Colonial States

### **Master of Social Work (MSW), University of Toronto (2003-2005)**

Thesis: 'Regent Park is Our Fallujah': Constructing an Activist Praxis Within Local Contestations of War & Globalization in Toronto

### **Bachelor of Arts (H.BA) Accounting, University of Waterloo (1998-2002)**

## Grants & Awards

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### **Tri-Council Grants Received**

#### **UW/SSHRC Explore Grant**

2019 *Stealing Home: Settler Identity, National Myth Making, and Baseball as America* \$6,938

#### **Social Sciences and the Humanities Research Council, Connection Grant**

2017 *Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand* \$49,950

## **University of Waterloo Research Office - SSHRC Matching Funds**

2017 *Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand* \$10,000

## **University of Waterloo Faculty of Arts - SSHRC Matching Funds**

2017 *Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand* \$3,000

## **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Doctoral Fellowship**

2012 *Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles* \$20,000

## **Tri-Council Grants Applied**

### **Social Sciences and the Humanities Research Council, Connection**

2019 *Imagining Abolitionist and Decolonizing Futures*. \$49,452, **Pending Adjudication.**

## **Tri-Council Grants Unsuccessful**

### **Social Sciences and the Humanities Research Council, IDG**

2019 *Stealing Home: Settler Identity, National Myth-Making, and Baseball as America* \$63,730

2018 *Home Field Advantage: Settler Colonialism, Nationalism and Baseball* \$59,590

## **Other External Grants**

### **Ontario Graduate Scholarship**

2011-2015\* *Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles* \$15,000.

\*declined in 2012

## **Internal Grants**

### **Renison Research Grant**

2019 *Abolition Social Work*. \$1,988

2019 *Kabechenong//Humber: Memorializing and Disrupting the Canadian National Myth Along the Banks of the Humber River*. \$2,000

2018 *Home Field Advantage: Settler Colonialism, Nationalism and Baseball as a site of political contestation*. \$1,825

2017 *The Settler Colonialism of Social Work and the Social Work of Settler Colonialism*. \$1,890

2016 *A Field of Dreamers: Place, Space, and Belonging in Toronto's Recreational Softball Leagues – An Ethnography*. \$1,995

### **Pierre Elliott Trudeau Field Work Fellowship - York University**

2013 *Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles*. \$3,750

### **Rosemarie Abella Scholarship for Studies in Equity - York University**

2014 *Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles*. \$5,000

### **Tzu Chi Buddhist Award for Social Justice - University of Toronto**

2005 *Regent Park is Our Fallujah': Constructing an Activist Praxis Within Local Contestations of War & Globalization in Toronto*. \$2,500

### **Dr. Ann Goldberg Bergman Academic Excellence and Leadership Award - University of Toronto**

2004 *Regent Park is Our Fallujah': Constructing an Activist Praxis Within Local Contestations of War & Globalization in Toronto*. \$1,500

### **J.R. Coutts Students Without Borders International Volunteer Award - University of Waterloo**

2002. \$2,500

### **Kerr-Ostrander Leadership in the Public Interest Award - University of Waterloo**

2002. \$2,500

## **Community Grants & Awards**

### **Canadian Heritage: Youth Engagement & Leadership Grant**

2007 – 2009 *For Grassroots Youth Collaborative to develop a series of educational workshops, research roundtables, a major forum and video production to support racialized and marginalized youth's ability to influence and develop policy that impacts their day-to-day lives*. \$250,000

### **Lawson Foundation: Community Leadership and Capacity Building**

2007 – 2009 *For the Grassroots Youth Collaborative to support training and cross-city consultations with similar groups in NYC and Vancouver, build membership base of youth-led network in Toronto, Ontario. \$339,000*

### **Ontario Roots of Youth Violence Secretariat – Research Grant**

2007 *For the Grassroots Youth Collaborative to conduct research to develop policy solutions to the root causes of youth violence in Ontario. \$45,565*

### **Ontario Trillium Foundation – Community Engagement Grant**

2006 - 2008 *For the Grassroots Youth Collaborative to ensure core staff funding for youth-led network of grassroots organizations in the city of Toronto. \$225,000*

### **SSHRC - Canadian Review of Social Policy**

2004 *For the Canadian Review of Social Policy to maintain staff and expand publication capacity (including online publication) of the academic journal. \$91,670*

## **Academic Distinctions and Teaching Awards**

### **Ian Greene Teaching Award - York University**

2012 *Student Council of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (SCOLAPS), York University*

### **Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Award - University of Toronto**

2005 University of Toronto

## **Research & Teaching Experience**

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### **Teaching**

#### **Assistant Professor – Social Development Studies (2016 – Present)**

##### **Renison University College**

ARTS 140: Inquiry and Analysis - Social Change and Social Development

SOCWK 120R: Introduction to Social Work

SDS 331R: Social Inequality, Social Justice & Public Policy

SDS 411R: Decolonization and Social Action

SDS 441R: Popular Culture in the Radical Imagination

**Course Director – Renison University College (2016)**

SOCWK 222R: Community Organizations

SDS 331R: Social Inequality, Social Justice, and Public Policy

**Course Director – Trent University – Sociology (2016)**

SOCI 4952 – Sociology of Youth

**Course Director - York University - Sociology (2013 – 2015)**

SOCI 2040: Sociological Theory

SOCI 4220: Social Movements: Theory and Practice

**Teaching Assistant, York University - Sociology\* (2009 – 2014)**

SOCI 1010: Introduction to Sociology

SOCI 2040: Sociological Theory

SOCI 2060: Social Interaction and Community

SOSC 3065/3066: Regulation & Punishment I & II

\*Awarded the Ian Greene Teaching Award in (2012) by the Student Council of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies at York University

**Contract Faculty, Sheridan College - Liberal Studies (2008 – 2009)**

SOCI 17461: Diversity Issues in Policing

## **Research**

**Research Assistant, Brock University - Sociology (2013 – 2015)**

Professor Janet Conway (Canada Research Chair in Social Justice. Transnational feminist movements, social movement theory, modernity and colonization.

**Research Assistant, York University - Sociology (2009 – 2012)**

Professor Lesley Wood. The diffusion of protest policing strategies in Canada and their consequences for social movements.

**Research Assistant, Ryerson University - Politics (2005 – 2006)**

Professor Janet Conway. World Social Forum, World Women's March, and transnational feminist theory.

**Managing Editor, Canadian Review of Social Policy (2004 – 2005)**

Managed the peer review process for CRSP. Successfully secured SSHRC funding for the journal (\$90,000).

### **Research Assistant, University of Waterloo - Economics (2002– 2003)**

Professor Robert Kerton research in the area of consumer impacts of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

## **Community Employment Experience**

### **Program Manager – Ontario Trillium Foundation - Toronto (2008 – 2009)**

Manage grant selection and implementation for York region with Canada's largest community service grant organization.

### **Coordinator, Grassroots Youth Collaborative - Toronto (2005 – 2008)**

Coordinated a network of over 12 grassroots youth-led organizations in Toronto and applied for/managed grants of over a combined \$400,000 per year.

### **Tenant Support Worker, St. Clare's Housing - Toronto (2004 – 2005)**

Support and advocacy with individuals transitioning out of shelters and into social housing in the Kensington Market neighbourhood.

### **Research Assistant, Family Services Association – Toronto (2004 – 2005)**

Conducted social, statistical, and other quantitative research for an influential research project on the incidence of poverty among young families in Toronto.

### **Research Associate, Community Development Halton (2003 – 2004)**

Organized a field research study on the experiences of social inclusion and exclusion experienced by suburban youth in the community of Burlington, Ontario as part of the Inclusive Cities Project.

## **Publications**

### **Peer-Reviewed Single Authored Books**

(2017) *Unsettling the Commons: Social Movements Within, Against, and Beyond Settler Colonialism*. Winnipeg: Arbeiter Ring Publishing.

### **Peer-Reviewed Academic Journals**

(2019). Fortier, Craig and Colin Hastings. A Field of Dreamers on Stolen Land: Practices of Unsettling on the Recreational Softball Diamonds of Tkaronto. *Journal of Sport History* 46(2): 309-324. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/733518>

- (2018). Fortier, Craig and Edward Hon Sing Wong. The Social Work of Settler Colonialism and the Settler Colonialism of Social Work. *Settler Colonial Studies*.  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/2201473X.2018.1519962>
- (2017). "Unsettling Methodologies/Decolonizing Movements," *Journal of Indigenous Social Development* 6(1):20-36. [https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/social\\_work/media/V6i1-02\\_fortier.pdf](https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/social_work/media/V6i1-02_fortier.pdf)
- (2016). Stealing Home: Decolonizing Baseball's Origin Stories and their Relations to Settler Colonialism. *Settler Colonial Studies* 6(1):1-22.

### **Book Chapters**

- (2016) Wood, Lesley and Craig Fortier. Consent, coercion and the criminalization of dissent in Carroll, William K. and Kanchan Sarkar (Eds) *A World To Win: Contemporary Social Movements & Counter-Hegemony*. Winnipeg: Arbeiter Ring Publishing.
- (2013). "Decolonizing Borders: No One Is Illegal movements in Canada and the negotiation of counter-national and anti-colonial struggles from within the nation-state" in Landolt, Patrica and Luin Goldring (Eds) *Producing and Negotiating Non-Citizenship: Precarious Legal Status in Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- (Forthcoming). Abolition & Decolonization as Pedagogy and Practice in Ewert, L. & Bird, F. (2020). *Peace is Everyone's Business*. Waterloo: WLU Press.

### **Other Non-Refereed Academic Publications**

- (2019). Assigning students research on social movements and marginalized groups. *The FAUW Blog*. Published on July 2, 2019 at: [https://fauw.blog/2019/07/02/assigning-students-research-on-social-movements-and-marginalized-groups/amp/?\\_twitter\\_impression=true&fbclid=IwAR0PLzb1M-UtpBm1soS2KZjMz7VxyHSWNAYWbjdtBX\\_0oiBq\\_iDRc0Z5CVw](https://fauw.blog/2019/07/02/assigning-students-research-on-social-movements-and-marginalized-groups/amp/?_twitter_impression=true&fbclid=IwAR0PLzb1M-UtpBm1soS2KZjMz7VxyHSWNAYWbjdtBX_0oiBq_iDRc0Z5CVw)
- (2016). Anti-Racist Struggles in Baseball: An Open Letter to Adam Jones. *Abolition Journal Blog*. Published on October 6, 2016 at: <https://abolitionjournal.org/anti-racist-struggles-baseball-open-letter-adam-jones/>
- (2015). No One Is Illegal, Canada is Illegal!: the decolonial transformation of political slogans against settler colonialism and border imperialism in the migrant justice movement. *Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society Blog*. Special series on immigration and decolonization. Published September 21, 2015 at: <https://decolonization.wordpress.com/2015/09/21/no-one-is-illegal-canada-is-illegal-negotiating-the-relationships-between-settler-colonialism-and-border-imperialism-through-political-slogans/>

## **Book Reviews**

- (2015). In this world but not necessarily of it': the trajectories of anti-authoritarian movements: a review of Chris Dixon's *Another Politics: Talking across Today's Transformative Movements*. *Perspectives on Anarchist Theory*, Vol 28.
- (2015). Red Skin, White Masks: Lessons for Social Movement Struggles in Glen Coulthard's Rejection of the Colonial Politics of Recognition. *Upping the Anti*, Vol 17.
- (2011). Fair Trade and Social Justice: Global Ethnographies by Mark Moberg and Sarah Lyon's (eds.)" *Mobilization* Vol 16:1, March 2011.

## **Research Publications**

- (2008) Abebe, Alpha and Craig Fortier. *Rooted in Action: A Youth-Led Report on Demands and Plans to Address the Root Causes of Violence in Our Communities*. Ontario Roots of Youth Violence Secretariat. November 2008.
- (2006). From the Roots Up! A Youth-Led Report on Building Safe and Healthy Communities. Grassroots Youth Collaborative: Phoenix Print Publications. November 2006.

## **Conference Presentations (Selected)**

- (2019). Fortier, Craig. Enshrining America: Memorialization, Myth-Making, and the National Baseball Hall of Fame. *Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference*. Wardman Park Marriott: Washington, DC. Friday, April 19, 2019.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. A Field of Dreamers on Stolen Land: Practices of Unsettling on the Recreational Softball Diamonds of Tkaronto. *North America Sports History Conference*. University of Manitoba: Winnipeg. Thursday, May 24, 2018.
- (2017). Fortier, Craig. The Settler Colonialism of Social Work. *Legacies of Social Welfare Work in Canada: A Conference Series*. Wilfrid Laurier University: Brantford. Tuesday, October 24, 2017.
- (2017). Fortier, Craig and Colin Hastings. A Field of Dreamers: Place, Space, and Belonging in Toronto's Recreational Softball Leagues. *Abolish Border Imperialism: A Convergence*. Abolition Conference. Bureau of Indian Works: Minneapolis. Saturday, October 7, 2017.
- (2017). Fortier, Craig and Edward Hon Sing Wong. The Settler Colonialism of Social Work and the Social Work of Settler Colonialism. *Canadian Association of Social Work Educators Conference - CONGRESS*. Ryerson University: Toronto, May 30, 2017.



- (2017). Wong, Edward Hon Sing and Craig Fortier. Can Social Work Be Decolonized? Subverting the "Helping" Profession and its Incommensurabilities. *Critical Social Work Research Symposium*. York University: Toronto, April 21, 2017.
- (2016). Fortier, Craig & Lesley Wood To Give it a Name: Rescuing Social Movement Histories from Anonymity. De/Materializing Bodies Symposium. Ryerson University: Toronto, November 12, 2016.
- (2016). (Re)Claiming the Commons in a Context of Settler Colonialism. The Work of Settler Colonialism Symposium. CUNY: New York City, April 3, 2016.
- (2016). (Re)Claiming the Commons in a Context of Settler Colonialism. Western Political Science Association: Abolition and Decolonial Politics Conference. San Diego, California, March 24, 2016.
- (2015). Stealing Home: decolonizing baseball's origin stories and their relations to settler colonialism. Critical Ethnic Studies Conference. Toronto: York University, May 1 2015.
- (2015). "Not of here, Not of there": methodological approaches to studying decolonization among non-indigenous radicals. Western Political Science Association: Abolition/Decolonial Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada, April 3, 2015.
- (2014). Stealing Home: decolonizing baseball's origin stories and their relations to settler colonialism. International Sociology of Sports. Beijing, China. July 10, 2014.
- (2014). Questions we ask while walking: reflecting on methodologies to study processes of decolonization among non-indigenous radicals. Strategies of Critique–Decolonizing Anti-Racism. Toronto: York University, April 16, 2014.
- (2013). Decolonization & Resurgence: Anti-Authoritarianism, Migrant Justice and Indigenous Solidarity. North American Anarchist Studies Network Conference. New Orleans: Zeitgeist Multicultural Center. Thursday, January 6, 2013.
- (2012). Undoing Borders, Building Solidarities: The Rise of Anti-State Migrant Justice Struggles and their Relation to Indigenous Sovereignty. Political Studies Association Annual International Conference. Belfast: Europa Hotel. April 4, 2012.

## **Invited Lectures & Keynotes**

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- (2019) Unsettling the Commons: On Unsettling Methods - LHA 1114 - Commons, Community and Social Justice - for Professor Jennifer Sumner, OISE/UT, October 30, 2019.
- (2019) Unwrapped: Decolonize Your Language - RAISE, University of Waterloo, September 26, 2019.
- (2019) Sorry to Bother You: Disruption as Political Practice. Xchanges: the Complexities of Intersections Conference for - RAISE, University of Waterloo, March 23, 2019.
- (2019) Unsettling Methodologies, WS 365 - Research as Resistance - for Professor Katy Fulfer, Women's Studies, University of Waterloo. March 13, 2019.
- (2019) Panel: Intersectional Feminism and Higher Education. Body Politics Conference, for UW Women's Centre, University of Waterloo, March 7, 2019.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Decolonization in a Time of Official Reconciliation*. University of Waterloo/WPIRG. January 27, 2018 - Waterloo, featuring Amanda Plain, Jaydene Lavallie, and Enāēmaehkiw Kesīqnaeh.
- (2018) Minding the Gap film premiere panel in conversation with Sam Teclé. Canadian Sports Film Festival. Toronto International Film Festival Bell Lightbox, Toronto. Saturday, June 9th, 2018.
- (2017) Abolition: The Rise and Fall of Modern Policing, PACS 302 - Issues in Policing – for Professor Lowell Ewert, Peace and Conflict Studies Department, Conrad Grabel University College. January 19, 2017.
- (2016) Idle No More and Indigenous Sovereignty Struggles in the Canadian Settler State, INDEV 302 - International Development and Social Justice – for Professor Julie-Kate Seirlis, International Development Department, University of Waterloo. October 25, 2016.
- (2012) Racism, Colonization and Resistance, SOCI 1010 - Introduction to Sociology – for Professor Karen Anderson, Sociology Department, York University. Thursday, March 15, 2012.

## **Book Tour Events**

- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. Octopus Bookstore. March 21, 2018 - Ottawa - in conversation with Dr. Fiona Jefferies.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. Rebel Knowledges Conference/OPIRG Guelph. February 9, 2018 - Guelph - featuring Amber Holmes and Brad Evoy.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. York University Department of Sociology. February 7, 2018 - Toronto.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre/WPIRG. February 6, 2018 - Waterloo - featuring Enāēmaehkiw Kesīqnaeh and Fanis Juma Radstake.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. The Tower. February 1, 2018 - Hamilton - featuring Jaydene Lavallie and Danielle Boissoneau.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. University of Toronto/OPIRG-Toronto. January 24, 2018 - Toronto, featuring Karl Gardner, Sharrae Lyon, and Sigrid Kneve.
- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. Another Story Bookshop. January 17, 2018 - Toronto, featuring Rosina Kazi, Nicholas Murray and Giibwanisi.

## **Academic Supervision**

### **PhD Dissertation Committee**

Daniel Henhawk (2018) Recreation and Leisure Studies, University of Waterloo Internal-External Member of Defence Committee, June 29th, 2018

### **Senior Honours Thesis Supervision**

Fatima Haneef (2019). *What about My Mental Health? An Autoethnography about Muslim Student Mental Health*.

Muzghan Ahmadi (2019). *Harm Reduction in Ontario: Opioid Crisis, its Challenges, Implications, and Preventions*.

Charles Nichols (2017). *Disability as I see it: A Blind Man's View*.

### **Popular Culture//Radical Imagination: An Undergraduate Journal**

<https://popcultradimagination.wordpress.com>

## **Senior Honours Research Apprenticeship**

Ravina Gill (2019). Abolition Convergence 2020 - Children's Track Coordination

Kailey De Boer (2018). Field of Dreamers - Literature Review and Presentation at Journal of Sport History Conference.

## **Academic Service**

### **Tri-Council Adjudication**

SSHRC Connection Grants Adjudication Committee (2018)

### **Departmental & College**

Truth & Reconciliation Committee, Chair, Renison University College (2017-Present)

Faculty Association of University of Waterloo, TRC Working Group (2018 - Present)

Work Term Report Committee, Renison University College (2016 - 2019)

UW Indigenization Committee, University of Waterloo (2016 - 2018)

Tenure Track Hiring Committee, Renison University College (2016 - 2017)

Scholarship & Awards Committee, Renison University College (2016 - 2017)

Homelessness Awareness Week, Renison University College (2016 - 2017)

Sociology Graduate Curriculum Committee, York University (2013-2014)

Sociology Graduate Recruitment Committee, York University (2012-2013)

Sociology Graduate Admissions Committee, York University (2010-2011)

Faculty Council Student Delegate, University of Toronto (2004 -2005)

### **Conference Planning**

Co-Chair, Abolition Convergence Toronto, ON (May 2020)

Co-Chair, Abolition Convergence Minneapolis, MN (Oct 2017)

Co-Chair, Work of Settler Colonialism Symposium, Toronto, ON (April 2017)

Member, Abolition & Decolonization Conference San Diego, CA (July 2016)

### **Peer Review**

Settler Colonial Studies (2018 - Present)

Arbeiter Ring Publishing (2019 - Present)

International Feminist Journal of Politics (2018)

International Journal of Migration and Border Studies (2017, 2018)

Critical Ethnic Studies (2016, 2017)

Interface: a journal for and about social movements (2012-2015, 2017)

Constellations: an international journal of critical and democratic theory (2012-2015)

Upping the Anti: a journal of theory and action Reviewer (2013-Present)

Perspectives on Anarchist Theory Reviewer (2014 - Present)