

Craig Fortier PhD

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Academic Appointment

Associate Professor, Social Development Studies

Renison University College, University of Waterloo

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

Education

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 (selected)

Tri-Council Grants Received

(2020 - 2022) SSHRC Connection Grant, Principal Investigator, \$24,528
Imagining Abolitionist and Decolonizing Futures

(2020 - 2022) Renison University College - SSHRC Matching Funds, \$6,000
Imagining Abolitionist and Decolonizing Futures

(2019 - 2021) SSHRC Connection Grant, Co-Applicant (Shiri Pasternak, PI), \$25,000
Decolonizing Abolition

(2019 - 2020) UW/SSHRC Explore Grant, Principal Investigator, \$6,938
Stealing Home: Settler Identity, National Myth Making, and Baseball as America

(2017 - 2018) SSHRC Connection Grant, Principal Investigator, \$49,950
Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand

(2017 - 2018) University of Waterloo Research Office - SSHRC Matching Funds, \$10,000
Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand

(2017 - 2018) University of Waterloo Faculty of Arts - SSHRC Matching Funds, \$3,000
Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism & Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand

(2012 - 2013) SSHRC, Doctoral Fellowship, \$20,000
Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles

Tri-Council Grants Applied but Unsuccessful

(2019) SSHRC, Insight Development Grant, Principal Investigator, \$63,730
Stealing Home: Settler Identity, National Myth-Making, and Baseball as America

(2018) SSHRC, Insight Development Grant, Principal Investigator, \$59,590
Home Field Advantage: Settler Colonialism, Nationalism and Baseball

Other External Grants

(2011 - 2015)* Ontario Graduate Scholarship, \$15,000/year
Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles

*declined in 2012

Renison Research Grants

(2019) *Abolition Social Work*. \$1,060

(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

(2014) Rosemarie Abella Scholarship for Studies in Equity - York University, \$5,000
Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles

(2013) Pierre Elliott Trudeau Field Work Fellowship - York University, \$3,750
Unsettling Movements: Decolonizing Non-Indigenous Radical Struggles

Academic Distinctions and Teaching Awards

(2012) Ian Greene Teaching Award - York University
Student Council of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (SCOLAPS), York University

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Single Authored Books

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

Peer-Reviewed Edited Books (Lead Editor)

(Forthcoming Spring 2023) Fortier, Craig, Edward Hon-Sing Wong, Nicole Penak, and MJ Rwigema (eds.) *Abolition Social Work // Social Work Abolition*. Toronto: Between the Lines

Peer-Reviewed Academic Journals

(2021). The Humber is a Haunting: Settler Deathscapes, Indigenous Spectres, and the Memorialization of a Canadian Heritage River. *Antipode*, published online August 4, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1111/anti.12766>

(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>

(2019). Fortier, Craig and Edward Hon-Sing Wong. The Social Work of Settler Colonialism and the Settler Colonialism of Social Work. *Settler Colonial Studies* 9(4): 437-456
<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

(2016). Stealing Home: Decolonizing Baseball's Origin Stories and their Relations to Settler Colonialism. *Settler Colonial Studies* 6(1):1-22. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/2201473X.2014.993056>

Book Chapters

(2021). Abolition & Decolonization as Pedagogy and Practice, in Ewert, L. & Bird, F. *Peace is Everyone's Business*. Charlotte: Information Age Press, 107-123.

(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: ARP.

(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, Patricia and Luin Goldring (Eds) *Producing and Negotiating Non-Citizenship: Precarious Legal Status in Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

(Forthcoming Spring 2022). Fortier, Craig, Edward Hon-Sing Wong, Nicole Penak, and MJ Rwigema. Abolishing Carceral Social Work, in BTL Books (eds.) *Disarm, Defund, Dismantle: Police Abolition in Canada*. Toronto: Between the Lines.

(Forthcoming Spring 2023). Fortier, Craig and Edward Hon-Sing Wong. Social Work Abolition in Unsettling Times in Fortier, Craig, Edward Hon-Sing Wong, Nicole Penak, and MJ Rwigema *Abolition Social Work // Social Work Abolition*. Toronto: Between the Lines.

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_impession=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.

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.

Public Engagement & Media

Invited Talks & Keynotes

- (2021). Stealing Home: Unsettling Baseball as America's National Pastime. Waterloo Public Library, Thursday, October 19, 2021. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qdlh5vWeJ7M&ab_channel=renisonvideo
- (2021) Field of Dreamers: Recreational Sports Beyond the Binary. Waterloo Public Library, Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fz_7Vibp8Go&ab_channel=renisonvideo
- (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) 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 Enāemaehkiw 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.

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.
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- (2018). Fortier, Craig. *Unsettling the Commons*. Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre/WPIRG. February 6, 2018 - Waterloo - featuring Enāemaehkiw 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.

Media

(2019) From Embers: Unsettling the Commons with Craig Fortier. *It's Going Down Podcast*, Feb 19, 2019: <https://itsgoingdown.org/from-embers-unsettling-the-commons/>

(2018). Exploring the radical possibilities of recreational sports. *Talking Radical Radio Podcast*, Sep 4, 2018: <https://rabble.ca/podcasts/shows/talking-radical-radio/2018/09/exploring-radical-possibilities-recreational-sports>

(2017) Migrant worker art installation shows fruit of their labour, CBC News, Sep 29, 2017: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/speaking-fruit-migrant-workers-ontario-art-nuit-blanche-1.4311959>

(2017) Migrant workers use art to protest for rights, recognition, permanent status, *The Toronto Star*, Sep 29, 2017: <https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2017/09/29/migrant-workers-use-art-to-protest-for-rights-recognition-permanent-status.html>

(2017) Speaking Fruit: a fruition of a movement in motion. *Imprint*, Oct 3, 2017: <http://uwimprint.ca/article/speaking-fruit-a-fruition-of-a-movement-in-motion/>

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

* developed an online version of the course

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

Guest Lectures

(2021) OISE/UT LHA 114: Commons, Community and Social Justice

Unsettling the Commons: Social Movements Within, Against, and Beyond Settler Colonialism for Professor Jennifer Sumner, November 21, 2021.

(2021) University of Waterloo HIST 205: History of Western Sport. Unsettling Baseball as America for Professor Christopher Taylor, February 11, 2021.

(2021) University of Waterloo INTEG 221: The Social Nature of Knowledge. Against Research Extractivism: Radical Research Methods for Professor Katie Plaisance, March 31, 2021.

(2021) University of Waterloo ENBUS 410: Engaging Stakeholders. Unsettling the Commons: Social Movements Within, Against, and Beyond Settler Colonialism for Professor Jason Thistlewaite, April 1, 2021.

(2021) University of Waterloo WS 365: Research as Resistance. Relationality and Radical Research for Professor Katy Fulfer, April 6, 2021.

(2020) OISE/UT LHA 114: Commons, Community and Social Justice

Unsettling the Commons: Social Movements Within, Against, and Beyond Settler Colonialism for Professor Jennifer Sumner, November 13, 2020.

(2019) OISE/UT LHA 114: Commons, Community and Social Justice

Unsettling the Commons: On Unsettling Methods for Professor Jennifer Sumner, October 30, 2019.

(2019) University of Waterloo WS 365: Research as Resistance

Unsettling Methodologies for Professor Katy Fulfer, March 13, 2019.

(2017) University of Waterloo PACS 302: Issues in Policing

Abolition: The Rise and Fall of Modern Policing for Professor Lowell Ewert, January 19, 2017.

(2017) University of Waterloo INDEV 302: International Development & Social Justice

Idle No More and Indigenous Sovereignty Struggles in the Canadian Settler State for Professor Julie-Kate Seirlis, October 25, 2016.

Supervision

PhD Dissertation Committee

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

Senior Honours Thesis Supervision

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

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

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

Senior Honours Research Apprenticeship

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

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

Research Assistants

(2019-2020) Charmaine Pasadilla, BA, Project: Abolition Social Work

(2019-2020) Colin Hastings, PhD, Project: Stealing Home: Settler Identity, National Myth Making, and Baseball as America

(2018) Kailey De Boer, BA, Project: Settler Colonialism, Nationalism and Baseball as a site of political contestation

(2017 - 2018) Evelyn Encalada Grez, PhD, Project: Speaking Fruit: Art, Activism, and Migrant Justice from a Mobile Fruit Stand

(2017 - 2018) Edward Hon-Sing Wong, PhD, Project: The Settler Colonialism of Social Work and the Social Work of Settler Colonialism

(2016 - 2017) Colin Hastings, PhD, Project: A Field of Dreamers: Place, Space, and Belonging in Toronto's Recreational Softball Leagues – An Ethnography.

Undergraduate Journal

(2019 - present) Popular Culture//Radical Imagination: An Undergraduate Journal: <https://popcultradimagination.wordpress.com>

Academic Service

Tri-Council Adjudication

(2021) SSHRC New Frontiers for Research Fund Adjudication Committee

(2020) SSHRC Insight Grant Adjudication Committee

(2018 - 2021) SSHRC Connection Grants Adjudication Committee (4 rounds)

Conference Planning

Lead Organizer, Abolition Convergence Toronto, ON (May 2020 - postponed due to COVID)

Co-Organizer, Abolition Convergence Minneapolis, MN (Oct 2017)
Co-Organizer Homelessness Awareness Week, Renison University College (Sept 2017)
Co-Organizer, Work of Settler Colonialism Symposium, Toronto, ON (April 2017)
Co-Organizer, Abolition & Decolonization Sub-Conference, Western Political Science Association Conference, San Diego, CA (July 2016)

Academic Journals

Editorial Committee, Abolition: A Journal of Insurgent Politics (2017 - Present)
<https://journal.abolitionjournal.org/index.php/abolition>

Peer Review (Listed in order of recency covering the years 2016-2021)

Antipode (1)
Society & Space (1)
Fernwood Publishing (1)
Canadian Food Studies (1)
Postcolonial Studies (1)
Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space (1)
Settler Colonial Studies (3)
Arbeiter Ring Publishing (2)
International Feminist Journal of Politics (2)
International Journal of Migration and Border Studies (2)
Critical Ethnic Studies (2)
Interface: a journal for and about social movements (3)
Constellations: an international journal of critical and democratic theory (1)
Upping the Anti: a journal of theory and action (2)
Perspectives on Anarchist Theory (2)

Professional Development

Approved Doctoral Dissertation Supervision Course, CTE, October 2018

Professional Associations

Abolition Journal Collective
Abolition Convergence
Popular Culture Association
Decolonization & Reconciliation Working Group - North American Sports History Association

Renison University College and University of Waterloo

Member, Business Recovery Task Force, Renison University College (2020 - Present)
Member, SDS/SSW BSW revision working group (2021-2022)
Chair, Renison Research Committee (2021-2022)
Chair, Truth & Reconciliation Committee, Renison University College (2017- Present)
Coordinator, Work Term Report, Renison University College (2016 – 2019)
Coordinator, SDS Specialization Restructuring (2017-2018)
Member, UW Indigenization Committee, University of Waterloo (2016 – 2018)
Member, Tenure Track Hiring Committee, Renison University College (2016 – 2017)
Member, Scholarship & Awards Committee, Renison University College (2016 – 2017)
Member, Sociology Graduate Curriculum Committee, York University (2013-2014)
Member, Sociology Graduate Recruitment Committee, York University (2012-2013)

Member, Sociology Graduate Admissions Committee, York University (2010-2011)
Member, Faculty Council Student Delegate, University of Toronto (2004 -2005)

Faculty Association

Representative, Canadian Association of University Teachers, Defence Fund (2020 - Present)
Member, Faculty Association of University of Waterloo, TRC Working Group (2018 - Present)

Community Service

Currently Active

Abolition Collective, Transformative Justice & Community Accountability Committee
Abolition Toronto, Member
Bricks & Glitter, Community Power Mapping Facilitator
Defund the Police Toronto, Member
Grassy Narrows River Run, Organizer
Field of Dreamers Cooperative Softball Association, Co-Commissioner
No One Is Illegal-Toronto, Member
Unit 2, Supporter/Member

