

Przykładowe tematy do prezentacji z III etapu

2014 Topic: The Spirit of Canada

Nations do not emerge from some primordial sources but they are “imagined communities” (Anderson), which can be shaped by ideas of successive governments, cultural institutions and individual politicians, historians, writers, artists and critics. Canadian narratives of nationhood which form the groundwork for the construction of national identities and values, have been inscribed in the discourses of geography, history, politics and in both mainstream and popular culture (literature, film, theatre, visual arts, music, education, lifestyle, cuisine, sports, entertainment).

Choose three narratives of Canadianness / Canadian national narratives that you consider most important to justify your understanding of the term “the Spirit of Canada.” Argue for your choice of specific national narratives which you believe to be responsible for constructing the distinctiveness and uniqueness of the country’s spirit.

2015 Topic: CANADIAN VALUES

In contrast to American cultural values expressed in the motto „life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”, the early Canadian motto, as defined in the British North America Act, indicates different values that have shaped the country: „peace, order, and good government.” Canada was not built as a culture of gunplay and violence typical of the American Wild West. In the Canadian “Mild West” values have been evolving differently. The respect for the law grounded in democratic values, led to the development of a unique federal style of government based on compromise, co-existence and commitment to social justice. Canada developed as a non-violent peaceful nation whose values include freedom (as freedom of thought, freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of peaceful assembly), equality (respect for the rights of all people), and respect for cultural differences (recognition and appreciation of cultures and traditions of all Canadians). The statement by Bill Graham, Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs (2002), encapsulates it all: “[t]he world we want is much like the Canada we want: a sustainable future of shared security and prosperity; of tolerance and respect for diversity; of democracy and the realization of human rights; of opportunity and equal justice for all” (2002). One might add: civic participation, community involvement and cultural sovereignty. Who is responsible for building these values? They are embedded not only in government documents but first and foremost in literary and cultural projects. Writers, artists, critics, historians and politicians have been engaged not only in the process of producing a narrative of Canada as an attractive place for its citizens and a desiring place for many immigrants but also, exercising their freedom, in challenging and exposing idealized mythologies of Canadianness, unveiling and exploring hidden parts of ongoing history, and addressing problems which others fear to touch.

Choose three areas of Canadian culture, be it literature, film, television, visual arts, music, sports, popular culture, history or politics, and examine how Canadian values have been inscribed, advocated, reflected, examined, or challenged and exposed in the selected work, discourses or projects. For your discussion you may select documentaries from National Film board of Canada or CBC docs websites.

2016 Topic: CANADA’S SOFT POWER IN THE WORLD

Canada has been recognized globally for its soft power and public diplomacy, for its ability to persuade through culture, values and ideas, as opposed to doing so through the use of coercion' (Nye) be it military or economic. The country has achieved its global reputation by developing the quality of its various political and cultural institutions and their policies, higher education system, economic model, business/innovation and diplomatic networks. Sources of its soft power are also culture and arts, including popular culture and mass media. The role of Canada in the world, however, has been changing throughout history and so has its soft power. Prepare a presentation in which you reflect on the past and contemporary dimensions of the Canadian soft power and its influence in the world. Provide a critique (detailed analysis and evaluation) of Canada's soft power in two selected areas. Consider both positive and negative ratings (should there be any) of Canada's soft power in the examples you have chosen to examine.

2017 Topic: THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S VISION FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONFEDERATION

The Government of Canada's vision for the 150th anniversary of Confederation is encapsulated in four main themes:

- DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION – We want to continue building a welcoming Canada where there is a place for everyone, a Canada where everyone can reach his or her full potential.
- RECONCILIATION FROM NATION TO NATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE – We want to support reconciliation efforts with Indigenous people and make use of the 150th anniversary to reaffirm our intent to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- YOUTH – We want to continue to engage young people and give them the means to contribute to our society, because they are the ones who will shape tomorrow's Canada.
- ENVIRONMENT – We want to be the custodians of our environment, because it is a source of our country's wealth and pride. We want to bring Canadians closer to nature in order to strengthen their environmental awareness. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1039679>

Choose ONE of the themes and explore it in your presentation. Provide a critique (detailed analysis and evaluation) of the Government of Canada's vision for this important anniversary with a special focus on the theme you selected. Is this an entirely new vision of the country? How different is it from earlier conceptualizations of Canada? What does it say about the future of this land and its people? Are there any discrepancies between the official political narratives and the current situation in the country? How is the political vision reflected in other discourses? Is it supported or challenged? Analyze your theme on the basis of examples drawn from TWO discourses, be it history, politics, sociology, environmental science, ecology, literature, film, television, visual arts, music, sports, or popular culture.

2018 Topic: THE ROLE OF MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES IN THE REPRESENTATION OF CANADA

Museums and galleries render the uniqueness of Canada; they reflect and build the country's past, present and future, as well as its cultural, political, social, and visual heritage. They provide Canadians with a sense of identity and pride; they also explore difficult moments in Canada's heritage and inspire Canadians to critically reflect on them.

In this presentation you are expected to investigate the ways in which Canadian identities are constructed and negotiated in museums and galleries of this country. Consider briefly some of the following questions, depending on the aspect of the topic you select to discuss:

- What is the role of museums and galleries in the construction of Canadian identities?
- Are these institutions sensitive to changing notions of race, ethnicity, class, and gender? Are they sites of inclusion or exclusion?
- Which cultures have been historically marginalized or misrepresented in Canadian museums and galleries? How do they feature in current exhibitions?
- Do museums and galleries listen to the voices of diverse Canadian communities wishing to participate in the construction and negotiation of the official identity politics?
- Are you aware of any exhibitions in Canada that provoked an outcry?
- What are the major signifiers of Canadianness represented and / or constructed by museums and galleries in 21st century Canada? Are they connected with ideas related to nature, northern landscapes, the Indigenous population, diverse groups of settlers, exiles and migrants, be they the dominant or minority cultures, or rather to the select historical and cultural narratives/ events recognized by the mainstream as important for the country?

Select TWO Canadian museums and ONE gallery, and visit their online exhibitions, including archives, if they are available. Choose projects which you consider most characteristic or successful in defining or constructing contemporary Canada. Pay attention to the display methods, ideas, and agendas of the curators and /or the museums and galleries you decide to explore, and reflect on their role in the representation of Canada in 2018. In your analysis you are requested to refer to at least TWO critical essays from the list provided below. You are also encouraged to consult other scholarly publications on the topic of your choice.

CRITICAL ESSAYS

[artykuły nie posiadające linku zostaną przesłane mailem do nauczycieli]

Moira McLoughlin (1993) "Of Boundaries and Borders: First Nations' History in Museums," *Canadian Journal of Communication*, [S.l.], v. 18, n. 3

<http://www.cjc-online.ca/index.php/journal/article/view/761/667>

Anne Whitelaw (2006) "Placing Aboriginal Art at the National Gallery of Canada," *Canadian Journal of Communication*, [S.l.], v. 31, n. 1

<http://www.cjc-online.ca/index.php/journal/article/view/1775/1897>

Liv Valmestad "Prairie Prestige"

<http://libguides.lib.umanitoba.ca/c.php?g=514422&p=3533584>

Ashley, S. (n.d.). "FIRST NATIONS ON VIEW: Canadian Museums and Hybrid Representations of Culture," 31-40.

<http://www.yorku.ca/etopia/docs/conference/Ashley.pdf>

Melissa Aronczyk, Miranda J. Brady (2015) "Branding History at the Canadian Museum of Civilization," *Canadian Journal of Communication* Vol 40, 165–184

Ruth B. Phillips and Mark Salber Phillips (2005) "Double Take: Contesting Time, Place, and Nation in the First Peoples Hall of the Canadian Museum of Civilization," *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 107, No. 4, pp. 694-704

Nadine Blumer (2015) "Expanding Museum Spaces: Networks of Difficult Knowledge at and Beyond the Canadian Museum for Human Rights," *Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies*, 37:2-3, 125-146

David Dean and Peter E Rider (2005) "Museums, Nation and Political History in the Australian National Museum and the Canadian Museum of Civilization," *Museum and Society*, 3 (1), 35-50

Anthony Shelton (2007) "Questioning locality: the UBC Museum of Anthropology and its hinterlands," *Etnográfica*, vol 11 (2), 387-406

Nakamura, Naohiro (2012) "The Representation of First Nations Art at the Art Gallery of Ontario," *International Journal of Canadian Studies*, (45-46), 417-440.

General sites on Canadian museums and galleries

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/culture/cultural-attractions/museums-galleries.html>
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/museums-galleries-capital.html>
<https://us-keepexploring.canada.travel/things-to-do/learning-coast-coast-15-best-canadian-museums?platform=hootsuite>
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/m/article/art-galleries-and-museums/>
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/m/article/national-museums-of-canada/>
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/m/article/museum-policy/>
<https://canadianart.ca/features/whats-the-future-of-canadas-museums/>

Canadian museums

<https://www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com/>
<https://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/>
<http://moa.ubc.ca/>
<https://www.mcq.org/en/>
<https://slcc.ca/>
<http://haidaheritagecentre.com/>
<https://www.umista.ca/>
<http://www.pier21.ca/home/>
<http://www.exporail.org/en/welcome-to-exporail/>
<https://ingeniumcanada.org/scitech/index.php>
<http://www.warmuseum.ca/>
<http://www.tyrrellmuseum.com/index.htm>
<https://levillage.novascotia.ca/>
<http://www.virtualmuseum.ca/home/>
<https://www.canoemuseum.ca/>
<http://shmc.ca/>
<http://web1.bccnswb.com/>

<http://museeholocauste.ca/en/>
<https://humanrights.ca/>
<http://www.historymuseum.ca/>

Canadian galleries:

<https://www.gallery.ca/>
<https://ago.ca/>
<http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/>
<https://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca/>
<https://www.youraga.ca/>
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/m/article/national-gallery-of-canada/>
<http://www.mackenzieartgallery.ca/engage>
<http://artgalleryofguelph.ca/>
<https://audainartmuseum.com/>

2019 Topic: THE ROLE OF NATIONAL PARKS IN SHAPING CANADIAN IDENTITY

Canada's national parks play a significant role in the formation of Canadian identity, protecting wildlife and natural heritage, fighting climate change and providing economic development. The largest public consultation ever on Parks Canada took place in 2018. Following the Minister's Round Table, Let's Talk Parks, Canada!, The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, identified three priorities for Parks Canada:

"1. To Protect and Restore our national parks and historic sites through focussed investments, working with Indigenous peoples, working with provinces and territories, and ensuring ecological integrity is the first priority in decision making.

2. Enable people to further Discover and Connect with our parks and heritage through innovative ideas that help share these special places with Canadians.

3. Sustain for generations to come the incredible value—both ecological and economic—that our parks and historic sites provide for communities. The value they bring to fighting climate change, protecting species at risk, and shaping our Canadian identity and jobs and economic opportunity for local communities."

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/agence-agency/dp-pd/trm-mrt/rapport-report>

In this presentation you are expected to investigate the ways in which Canadian identities are constructed and negotiated in/through Canadian national parks. Reflect on the priorities mentioned by Minister McKenna and consider briefly some of the following questions, depending on the aspect of the topic you select to discuss:

- What are the major signifiers of Canadianness represented and / or constructed by national parks in Canada? Reflect on the statement that "Canadianness was defined by way of northerness and wilderness."
- What is the place and role of Indigenous peoples in Canadian national parks? Are Canadian national parks sites of inclusion or exclusion? How has this notion changed across history? Consider the attitudes of Indigenous peoples to nature and contrast them with the dominant culture perceptions of the natural habitat. Why is it essential to take into consideration the indigenous

perspectives? How is Indigenous knowledge incorporated within the management of national parks in Canada?

- What is the future of the national parks?
- What is the role of Canadian national parks in relation to climate change?

Select TWO Canadian national parks and visit their websites. Choose projects which you consider most characteristic or successful in defining or constructing Canadian identity and aboriginal participation in it. In your analysis you are requested to refer to at least TWO critical essays from the list provided below. You are also encouraged to consult other scholarly publications on the topic of your choice.

CRITICAL ESSAYS

Writing the History of Canadian Parks: Past, Present, and Future, Alan MacEachern
<https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=historypub>

Two Paths One Direction: Parks Canada and Aboriginal Peoples Working Together,
Steve Langdon, Rob Prosper, and Nathalie Gagnon

Pragmatism and Poetry: National Parks and the Story of Canada, Claire Elizabeth Campbell

ONLINE MATERIAL

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/national-parks-of-canada>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=488&v=o-0f43n9Re4

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/agence-agency/aa-ia>