

DR. ALEX SOUCHEN

SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow

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CURRENT POSITION	<p>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Postdoctoral Fellow, Wilfrid Laurier University, LCMSDS Title: <i>Drowned at Sea: An Environmental History of Disarmament, 1918-1972</i> This project examines the environmental history of disarmament and the ocean dumping of munitions in the twentieth century. From 1918 to 1972, roughly one billion tons of unneeded conventional, chemical, and biological weapons were thrown in the oceans. Today, underwater munitions are a threat to the environment, economy, and public safety. This research project explores how, why, and where munitions ended up in the water.</p>	2016-18
EDUCATION	<p>Doctorate of Philosophy in History Western University Advisor: Dr. Jonathan Vance Title: <i>Peace Dividend: The War Assets Corporation and the Disposal of Canada's Munitions and Supplies, 1943-1948</i> Comprehensive Exams (Distinction, 85%): Major Field: Veterans Rehabilitation in Modern Canada Minor Fields: Public History; United States, 1877-2001</p>	2010-16
	<p>Master of Arts in History (Thesis) University of Ottawa Advisor: Dr. Serge Durflinger Title: <i>Beyond D-Day: Maintaining Morale in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, June–July 1944</i></p>	2008-10
	<p>Honours Bachelor of Arts with Specialization in History University of Ottawa Magna Cum Laude Dean's Honour List, 2005-6, 2006-7, 2007-8</p>	2004-08
PUBLICATIONS	<p>Refereed Articles “‘Under Fathoms of Saltwater’: Canada’s Ammunition Dumping Program, 1944-1947” (Submitted for peer review)</p>	2016

“The Culture of Morale: Battalion Newspapers in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, June-August 1944.” *The Journal of Military History*, Vol. 77, No. 2 (April, 2013): 543-567. **2013**

Non-Refereed

“Reflections from the Field: A Historian Attends a Science Workshop on Underwater Munitions, 27 June to 1 July 2016.” Laurier Centre for Military, Strategic, and Disarmament Studies, (Forthcoming) **2016**

With Laura Macaluso, Jodey Nurse, and Emma O’Toole, “Reading the Artifact” *History@Work*, National Council on Public History, 19 September, 7 October, and 20 November 2013. **2013**
publichistorycommons.org/tag/reading-the-artifact/

Media

“Turning Swords into Plowshares or Dumping them in the Sea with Alex Souchen” *Gradcastradio*, 10 June 2015. **2015**
gradcastradio.podbean.com/e/gradcast-21-turning-swords-into-plowshares-or-dumping-them-in-the-sea-with-alex-souchen/

Website

Professional website and blog, January 2016-Present, **Present**
alexsouchen.wordpress.com/

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Wilfrid Laurier University, \$81,000 **2016-18**

Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program
 Doctoral, Western University, \$15,000 **2013-14**

National Endowment for the Humanities
 Office of Digital Humanities, Travel Bursary, \$750 (USD) **2014**

Western University

Ley and Lois Smith Military History Fund, \$2,464 **2012-15**

Western Graduate Research Scholarship, \$80,000 **2010-14**

Jean Armstrong Fletcher Scholarship in Canadian History, \$1,500 **2011-12**

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship
 Doctoral, Western University, \$105,000 **2010-13**

Master’s, University of Ottawa, \$17,500 **2009-10**

	University of Ottawa (Master of Arts)	
	Dean's Scholarship, \$1,500	2010
	Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Admission Scholarship, \$32,000	2008-10
	Canadian Battlefields Foundation Student Study Tour	2007
	Molson Bursary, (for accommodation, meals, ground transport)	
	University of Ottawa (Bachelor of Arts)	
	Renewable Admission Scholarship, \$2,500/year	2006-08
		2004-05
	Queen Elizabeth II Aiming for the Top Scholarship, \$100/year	2004-08
	Renewable Dean's Merit Scholarship, \$1,000/year	2004-05
	The Chancellor's Scholarship for Academic Excellence, \$2,500	2004-05
	Faculty of Arts Scholarship, \$750	2004-05
	Declined Scholarships	
	Sir John A. MacDonald Fellowship in Canadian History	
	Doctoral, Western University, \$25,500	2010-13
	Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program	
	Doctoral, Western University, \$15,000	2010-11
	Master's, University of Ottawa, \$15,000	2009-10
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	"Drowned at Sea: Canada's Ammunition Dumping Program, 1944-1948." 27th Military History Colloquium, Wilfrid Laurier University, 6-7 May 2016.	2016
	"'Not Useful to War Veterans': The War Assets Corporation, Military Surplus Disposal, and Veterans Rehabilitation." 26th Military History Colloquium, Wilfrid Laurier University, 8-9 May 2015.	2015
	"The Limits of Patriotism: The War Assets Corporation, Military Surplus Disposal, and Veterans Rehabilitation in Postwar Canada." Canadian Historical Association Annual Meeting, Brock University, 26-28 May 2014.	2014
	"From Tactical to Practical: Overseas Munitions Disposal Programs, 1945-1949." Canada Abroad, Herstmonceux Castle, UK, 30-31 July 2013.	2013
	"Breaking the Habit: Defence Dependency and the Demobilization of Canada's Wartime Economy." 24th Military History Colloquium, Wilfrid Laurier University, 3-5 May 2013.	2013

	“The Peace Dividend: Demobilizing the Material Culture of Canada’s Second World War.” 15th Annual Graduate Strategic Studies Conference, University of Calgary, 1-2 March 2013.	2013
	“Killing Time, Not Germans: Rest and Reserve Positions in Normandy.” 22nd Military History Colloquium, University of Waterloo, 5-7 May 2011.	2011
	“‘You Make the News – We’ll Print It’: Battalion Newspapers in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, June – July 1944.” 21st Military History Colloquium, Wilfrid Laurier University, 29 April-1 May 2010.	2010
	“Constructing Culture: Battalion Newspapers in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, June – July 1944.” Pierre Savard Colloquium, University of Ottawa, 25-26 March 2010.	2010
	“On Razor’s Edge: Individuals and the Experience of War.” 12th Annual CDA Institute Graduate Student Symposium, Royal Military College of Canada, 30-31 October 2009. Presentation Award: Second Place, \$2,000	2009
	“Canadians at the Sharp End: D-Day, 6 June 1944.” 11th Annual University of Maine/University of New Brunswick International History Graduate Student Conference, University of New Brunswick, 25-27 September 2009.	2009
DEPARTMENTAL TALKS	“‘Not Useful to War Veterans’: The War Assets Corporation, Military Surplus Disposal, and Veterans Rehabilitation.” Bruce McCaffrey Memorial Graduate Seminar Series, Western University, 18 September 2014.	2014
	“Grant-Writing: It’s Not Just About the Money.” Professional Development Workshop, Department of History, Western University, 11 September 2014.	2014
	“Inconvenient Gifts of Useful Things: The Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and the Disposal of Medical Supplies Overseas, 1944-1946.” Bruce McCaffrey Memorial Graduate Seminar Series, Western University, 5 December 2013.	2013
	“The Culture of Morale: Battalion Newspapers in the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, June to August 1944.” Bruce McCaffrey Memorial Graduate Seminar Series, Western University, 8 December 2011.	2011

	<p>“On Razor’s Edge: Morale and Battalion Headquarters in Normandy.” History Graduate Student Association’s Monthly Colloquium, University of Ottawa, 19 January 2010.</p>	2010
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT	<p>Public Lectures “Drowned at Sea: Canada’s Ammunition Dumping Program, 1944-1947.” Military Lecture Series, Guelph Museums, 20 October 2016. (forthcoming)</p>	2016
	<p>“Peace Dividend: The War Assets Corporation and the Disposal of Canada’s Munitions and Supplies, 1943-1948.” Public Lecture, Western University, 1 March 2016.</p>	2016
	<p>Invited Speaker Grade 10 High School History Classes, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, Hillcrest High School (February 2010) and Colonel By Secondary School (February 2013). Spoke with students about history, researching, writing, and potential careers for history graduates.</p>	2013 and 2010
	<p>“D-Day: Juno Beach.” Remembrance Day Ceremony, High Horizons: A Community Social Group for Physically Challenged Adults, Ottawa, Canada. 11 November 2009.</p>	2009
	<p>“The Battle for Vimy Ridge.” Remembrance Day Ceremony, High Horizons: A Community Social Group for Physically Challenged Adults, Ottawa, Canada. 11 November 2008.</p>	2008
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p>Teaching Assistant, Western University Canada: Origins to the Present (History 2201E) Modern Europe (History 1401E) Attended lectures, graded assignments, and led small group discussions once a week for two tutorials (30 students total).</p>	2013-14 2010-12
	<p>Marking Assistant, Western University The Two World Wars (History 2179) Zombie Apocalypse: Panic and Paranoia from the Black Death to Y2K (History 2186A/B) (Winter Semester) The Two World Wars (History 2179) Attended lectures and graded assignments.</p>	2015-16 2015 2012-13
	<p>Teaching Assistant, University of Ottawa The History of Europe (HIS 1120) (Winter Semester) World War II (HIS 3314) (Fall Semester) Attended lectures and graded assignments.</p>	2009 2009 and 2008

	<p>Teaching Awards Nominated (twice), Graduate Student Teaching Award, Western University.</p>	<p>2011-12 2010-11</p>
	<p>Class Lecture “Northwest Europe: Market-Garden to Berlin, 1944-1945.” 27 November 2009.</p>	<p>2009</p>
PAST WORK EXPERIENCE	<p>Research Assistant, Network in Canadian History & Environment (NICHE) Researched climate data compiled by Environment Canada for the Yukon and Northwest Territories from 1850s to 1960s.</p>	<p>Summer 2015</p>
VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE	<p>Senior Historical Researcher, International Dialogue on Underwater Munitions (IDUM) Consultant for the IDUM’s International Technical Advisory Board on Sea Dumped Munitions.</p>	<p>Present</p>
	<p>Volunteer, Canadian War Museum Cross-referenced paper and electronic records for the Museum’s database of vehicular artifacts.</p>	<p>2006-07</p>
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	<p>NATO Science for Peace and Security Participant, MODUM “Towards the Monitoring of Dumped Munitions Threat,” Nova Scotia Community College, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 27 June to 1 July 2016. This workshop included historical and scientific overviews of the dumping of conventional and chemical munitions, classes on survey techniques for detection and mapping of underwater munitions, remote operated underwater vehicles for intrusive and non-intrusive investigations, and risk assessment.</p>	<p>2016</p>
	<p>Teaching Participant, Advanced Teaching Program, Teaching Support Centre, Western University, February-March 2016. This interdisciplinary workshop focused on improving teaching methods, course design, student assessment, and classroom management for rookie instructors. The workshop focused on how to: employ active learning strategies, provide feedback, formulate beneficial learning outcomes, deal with difficult students, and adapt teaching methods to meet the challenges of larger classes.</p>	<p>2016</p>

Writing and Peer Support

Co-organizer, Dissertation Writing Group. Department of History, Western University, March 2014-August 2015. **2014-15**

The writing group met regularly to review dissertation chapters, scholarship applications, and publications. This group encouraged a productive, creative, and supportive environment.

Digital Humanities

Participant, Digital Methods for Military History Workshop. NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks, Northeastern University, 10-11 October 2014. **2014**

Sponsored by the Office of the Digital Humanities at the National Endowment for the Humanities, this workshop focused on network analysis and mapping. I improved my research methods and skills by learning to work with several digital tools, such as: OpenRefine, Gephi, Voyant, Map Warper, and Neatline.

Audited, History 9877a Digital Research Methods taught by Dr. William Turkel. **Fall 2014**
Fall 2013

This class teaches students the basics of command line programming and introduces them to various methods and tools for collecting, managing, and analyzing digital sources.

Material Culture Workshop

Participant, Reading Artifacts Summer Institute (RASI). Canada Science and Technology Museum, 13-17 August 2012. **2012**

This interdisciplinary workshop brought scholars into the museum's storage warehouses and archives to research a particular artifact in small groups.

Experiential Learning

Participant, Canadian Battlefields Foundation Student Study Tour, France, 1-16 June 2007. **2007**

One of sixteen students selected for this guided study tour of Canadian battlefields from the World Wars. Participants were required to deliver two presentations: one on a battle or event and the other on a Canadian soldier buried overseas.

SERVICE**History Graduate Student Association (HGSA), Western University, Department of History**

Graduate Committee Representative. **2013-15**

Attended the Department's Graduate Committee meetings to represent the interests of Graduate students. Helped improve the Graduate program by suggesting policy alternatives and bringing issues to the Committee's attention.

- Member, Constitution Committee. **2013**
 Advised the HGSA on revisions to its constitution.
- Chair, Social Committee. **2011-13**
 Organized and publicized social events for Graduate students.
- Member, Conference Committee. **2012**
 From Here to There: Change, Travel, and Transformation, Second Annual Graduate Student History Conference. 27-29 September 2012.
- HGSA, University of Ottawa, Department of History**
 History Department Representative, Graduate Student Association. **2009-10**
 Attended meetings and updated the HGSA on news and policies.
- Co-organizer, “From Classroom to Career: A Professional Development Workshop for Young Historians.” 5 March 2010. **2010**
 This workshop invited speakers to talk about their careers and offer advice on publishing, teaching, skills development, and jobs outside academia.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society for Environmental History, 2016-Present
 Canadian Historical Association, 2012-Present
 Society for Military History, 2012-Present

LANGUAGES

English – fluent writing, reading, and oral
 French – basic writing, reading, oral