

The Spaces and Places of Canadian Popular Culture



An exclusively Canadian textbook, this collection investigates the relationships between identity, geography, and popular culture that are produced and consumed in this sprawling country. Expanding beyond the clichés of friendliness and snow, this text provides a fresh perspective on what it means to be Canadian, both nationally and transnationally. Scholars look at historical subjects like Québécois identity and Indigenous self-representation and explore issues in contemporary media, including music, film, television, comic books, video games, and social media. From Drake to the Tragically Hip, *Trailer Park Boys* to *The Amazing Race Canada*, and poutine to maple syrup, mainstream icons and trends are studied in the interdisciplinary context of race, gender, sexuality, politics, and patriotism. Contributing to the location of Canadian popular culture, this unique resource will engage students and scholars of communication studies, cultural studies, and Canadian studies. ****FEATURES****

- includes key concepts and theories and a glossary
- engages students with relatable historical and contemporary examples of Canadiana through a breadth of media, including television shows, websites, journals, celebrities, newspapers, literature, comic books, video games, music, and films
- ensures equal representation of a national and transnational Canada, which includes examples of race, gender, sexuality, and ethnicity, with particular attention to geographical intricacies that contain all provinces and territories

Author Information

Victoria Kannen

****Victoria Kannen**** writes and teaches on the subjects of identity, privilege, education, and popular culture. She holds a PhD in Sociology and Equity Studies in Education (newly named Social Justice Education) from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. In addition to writing and teaching about the intersections of identity and Canadian pop culture, she facilitates workshops on gendered and sexual violence in educational spaces. Her work has been published in such journals as the *Journal of Gender Studies*, *Culture, Theory and Critique*, and *Teaching in Higher Education*.

Neil Shyminsky

****Neil Shyminsky**** is a Professor in the School of Justice, Community Services, and General Studies at Cambrian College, whose work on superheroes has been published in journals such as the *International Journal of Comic Art* and *Men and Masculinities*.

Reviews

"A comprehensive collection such as this has been long overdue in the field of Canadian popular culture studies. The book demonstrates the myriad of disciplinary approaches and the breadth of relevant and intriguing examples that compose Canadian popular culture. The thoughtful organization of the collection—and the very useful appendix of alternative ways of organizing the chapters—makes this a very worthy addition to any course on popular culture."

—Scott Henderson, Dean and Head of Trent University Durham GTA, Professor of Communication and Critical Thinking, and Executive Director of the Popular Culture Association of Canada

"*The Spaces and Places of Canadian Popular Culture* is an ambitious and welcome collection of thoughtful essays that encourages students to think critically about Canadian popular culture and the representations of nation, community, and identity that are conveyed through texts, forms, and practices. From film, television, and music, to games, food and drink, and performance art, the scope of this collection is impressive, and the diversity of scholarship truly captures the interdisciplinary nature of the field. Engaging and accessible, this book showcases the vitality of popular culture studies in Canada."

—Sarah A. Matheson, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Popular Culture & Film, Brock University

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Canadian Studies
Communication and Cultural Studies

361 pages

6.75 x 9.75 inches

August 2019

ISBN: 9781773381428

Available at:

<https://www.canadianscholars.ca/books/the-spaces-and-places-of-canadian-popular-culture>

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