



Western Centre for Research on Migration & Ethnic Relations



Richard Lalonde

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Richard Lalonde is a Professor of Psychology at York University in Toronto where he has worked for almost 25 years. He has a cross-appointment between the Psychology Departments in the Faculty of Health and Glendon College. His research falls at the intersection of culture, identity, and intergroup relations, with a particular focus on issues that are pertinent first and second generation immigrants living in multicultural societies. Much of his work has focused on issues of cultural identity. His current research focuses on biculturals and the situations which they are likely to experience a cultural conflict because of an incompatibility between their two sets of cultural norms. Lalonde obtained his BA at the University of Ottawa, his MA and PhD at the University of Western Ontario. He has also collaborated in research projects at McGill University where he held a postdoctoral fellowship and at the University of Queensland where he has been a visiting scholar.

Intergroup Romance and the Bicultural Identities of Second Generation Asian Canadians

Social scientists have a long standing interest in the study of intimate interpersonal relationships. Historically, intimate relationships have usually been endogamous in nature. Endogamy, which is the practice of marrying within one's social groups (e.g., ethnicity, race, social class, religion), has been slowly shifting in North America as immigration has increased the diversity of its population. In the first part of this presentation, I will review some of the existing literature on immigration and intermarriage, with a particular focus on Asian immigration in a North American context. In the second part of this presentation, I will report on data from 3 studies that examine different aspects of the intimate relationships of second generation Asian Canadians, who represent an interesting group as they have access to two sets of potentially-conflicting cultural norms (heritage and mainstream Canadian) regarding dating and marriage. The influence of cultural norms will be examined through the lens of social identities.

Thursday, March 15, 2012

4:00pm – SSC 5220

Refreshments 3:30pm – SSC 5230