



**The Centre for Oral History and Tradition
presents:**

Fulbright Scholar,

Dr. Laurie Mercier

“Reconsidering Rosie: Rugged Work in the North American Wests”

*Thursday, November 14, 2013 12:15-1:30pm
W561*

Mercier will discuss the historical roots of gender discrimination in industrial employment, in particular in the western United States and Canada, where assumptions about masculine work became tangled with notions of region.

“Meaning, Memory, and Method in Oral Narratives: how oral history collections inform us about the past.”

*Friday, November 15, 2013 12:00(noon)-12:50
C610
Coffee and Cookies provided*

Mercier explores how community oral history collections have the potential to transform our understanding of local, regional, and national history. How can we as oral historians help narrators make meaning of their words?

*Dr. Laurie Mercier is the Claudius O. and Mary W. Johnson Distinguished Professor of History at Washington State University Vancouver (WSUV). Her research explores the intersections of class, race, gender, work, and region, and recent publications include *Speaking History: The American Past through Oral Histories, 1865-2001* (Palgrave/MacMillan, 2010); *Mining Women: Gender in the Development of a Global Industry, 1670-2000* (Palgrave/MacMillan, 2006 and 2009); *Anaconda: Labor, Community, and Culture in Montana’s Smelter City* (University of Illinois Press, 2001). During fall 2013 Mercier is Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Arts and Humanities at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where she is working on a book project that will compare how workers negotiated gender boundaries in industrial communities from the mid- to late-twentieth century in the Canadian and U.S. Wests.*