

Lindsay Thistle

"Narrating the Nation: Issues of Culture and Identity in Canadian Television"

ABSTRACT

This lecture examines television in Canada from 1952 when CBC television began to broadcast until present day in a globalized post-9/11 world. Television has had a profound impact on shaping Canada as a country, sharing, representing and interacting with some of the most seminal moments and movements in Canadian culture, history and politics. This lecture addresses the representation of the Canadian nation through television, but also investigates some of the challenges to and issues of Canada's national broadcasting industry including war, funding, regionalism, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and its mandate, the country's colonial past, and its relationship with and proximity to the United States. A foundational question of this lecture is what makes television Canadian. How is it defined? How is it recognized? What are the fundamental differences between *television in Canada* and *Canadian television*?