

Exploring the World of Podcasts

Podcasts are a relatively new use of technology to expand our understanding of the world as well as to entertain us while we go about our active lives. There is a topic for every interest. This workshop aims to explore the world of podcasts by examining those that tackle a variety of topics (example *The Daily* by New York Times journalists) to ones that delve deeply into a specific subject (*Science Friday*) to ones that tell a story (*The Memory Place*). We will examine how to choose podcasts that are not only reliable but also enjoyable. Workshop participants will select a topic, and explore up to three podcasts on that topic. Each presenter will recommend that fellow participants listen to one of their chosen podcasts prior to the presentation and discussion which the presenter will lead. Presentation topics may include the biographical sketch of the podcast host(s) and guests, format and style, and quality of the information.

INTRODUCTION

Finding, listing, and evaluating Podcasts

If you are not familiar with podcasts you might find the following articles informative.

<https://riverside.fm/blog/how-to-listen-to-podcasts>

<https://www.thepodcasthost.com/listening/how-to-listen-to-a-podcast/#:~:text=The%20most%20popular%20examples%20are,Seamless!>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/guides/tech/best-podcast-apps>

<https://guides.library.utoronto.ca/c.php?g=721294&p=5157320>

Format of Podcasts – Podcasts come in many formats: One host, dialogue with three commentators/session, ongoing weekly, short series, series, biweekly, daily, etc. Choose podcasts with formats that interest you.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

Prior to or early in the fall, each participant will choose one podcast topic to explore from the list below and select a potential date for giving a presentation. Two participants will be scheduled to give their presentations at each session throughout the year. Prior to their presentations, the presenters will examine at least three podcast shows (series) on that topic, listen to several episodes in each show, select one podcast show to focus on and then recommend one or more episodes from that podcast show for workshop participants to listen to prior to their presentation. A week before the session, the facilitator will forward the titles of

the episodes from the two podcast shows that will be presented at the workshop to all participants so that everyone has a chance to listen to the two podcasts up for discussion.

At each session, the presenters will give a 20 minute talk on the podcast show and/or the specific podcast episode they chose. The presentation given could include but not be limited to information on the podcast host(s) and guests, format and style and quality of the information and the topic itself. Following this short presentation, the presenter will lead a discussion of the podcast topic.

SUGGESTED PODCAST SHOWS/series ON SPECIFIC TOPICS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

**Participants are welcome to explore topics and Podcast Shows other than those listed below!
There are many more to explore beyond those listed.**

Arts

99% Invisible – Weekly, explores design that we fail to notice
Q with Tom Power – Daily CBC Radio
Commotion with Elamin Abdelmehmoud – daily, CBC radio

Astronomy

StarTalk – weekly with Neil deGrasse Tyson
Ask a Spaceman! with Paul M. Sutter – biweekly Apple Podcasts
The Universe Today podcast (by Canadian Fraser Cain)
The Supermassive Podcast produced by the British Royal Astronomical Society.
Unreserve – CBC- specific episode from January 7, 2021 -
<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/unreserved/we-come-from-the-stars-indigenous-astronomy-astronauts-and-star-stories-1.5861762>

Business

The Economics of Everyday Things - weekly
The So What by BCG – biweekly
The Knowledge Project - biweekly interviews with fascinating people
Wisdom From the Top with Guy Raz - weekly

Canadian culture

The Big Story- Daily
The Secret Life of Canada - a series
Curious Canadian History -

Canadian News

Front Burner – daily news by CBC
The Big Story -daily
CanadaLand – semiweekly

The Decibel – daily Globe & Mail
The Current – daily CBC Radio
The Bridge with Peter Mansbridge
More... https://blog.feedspot.com/canadian_news_podcasts/
<https://chartable.com/charts/itunes/ca-news-podcasts>

Canadian History

The Secret Life of Canada - CBC series
Canadian History – weekly –
Curious Canadian History - biweekly

Climate change

Outrage + Optimism - weekly
How to Save the Planet - monthly
The Climate Question – weekly – BBC World Service
TILclimate – periodically – MIT Environmental Studies
For What Its Earth – Emma Brisdion & Lloyd Hopkins
Drilled – weekly - a true crime podcast
More...
<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/podcasts-climate-change-environment/>

Comedy -Canadian

I Hate It but I Love It – weekly Canadian
All Fantasy Everything – weekly -
Because News – weekly news quiz from CBC Radio

Comedy

Conan O'Brian Needs a Friend – semiweekly
Judge John Hodgman- weekly
Smartless – weekly - three hosts bring on guests and talk with them – funny, bantering

Crime, Canadian

Canadian True Crime – bimonthly
Missing and Murdered: Finding Cleo – series by CBC True Crime
Thunder Bay – series by Canadaland Investigates

Crime

48 forty eight hours – weekly by CBS
Dateline – daily by NBC
Scam Goddess – weekly
Drunk Women Solving Crime – weekly
Red Handed – semiweekly

Culture

Still Processing – weekly – NYT discussion of cultural interests – movie, music, politics
Decoder Ring – a monthly podcast
Modern Love – weekly - The New York Times

Documentary – Could be explored by more than one participant.

Slow Burn: the L.A. Riots and others such as Roe vs Wade
The Documentary Podcast – BBC World Service investigates global development, issues
Sold a Story – A weekly series
The Dropout – The story of Elizabeth Holmes and Theranos
Svetlana! Svetlana! -
False Profits: Hillsong -
50 Things that Made the Modern Economy – not an ongoing podcast. Epic documentary

Economics

Planet Money – Semiweekly - NPR
Your Money Briefing – Daily – The Wall Street Journal
More Money – Canadian - weekly
Macro Musings – weekly
More or Less: Behind the Stats – semiweekly

Education

Elementary- biweekly from the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
CCUG – Comprehensive Canadian University Guide – from 2020
Revisionist History – episode on university funding
<https://www.pushkin.fm/podcasts/revisionist-history/my-little-hundred-million>

Film and TV

I Hate it but I love it. – Canadian podcast on pop culture
The Movie Podcast -
Pop Culture Happy Hour (NPR)
The Editor's Cut - bimonthly podcast exploring the art of picture editing in Canada
Why We See Movies - Ron Houghton - Canadian based
Filmed in Canada – 2015-17

Food

Gastro Pod – bimonthly
Be My Guest with Ina Garten - weekly
The Sporkful – weekly
Table Manners – weekly

History

Revisionist History – by Malcolm Gladwell
Hardcore History – Some very long episodes
The History of Rome –
The History of WWII Podcast -
9/12 – a seven episode series after 9/11

Health and Wellness

This Podcast Will Kill You
ZOE Science & Nutrition - Weekly
Ted Health-
Nutrition Facts Podcast with Michael Greger

Indigenous

Unreserved – CBC Radio
The Secret Life of Canada -
Media Indigena with Rick Harp

The Internet

Rabbit Hole

Journalism

https://blog.feedspot.com/journalism_podcasts/

Justice system

In the Dark
Startup

Literature

<https://www.audible.com/blog/article-best-literature-podcasts>
The New Yorker Fiction Podcast –
Lolita – story about a 12 year old girl

Music

NYT Popcast –
Black Girl Songbook –
60 Songs that Explain the 90's
The Hamilcast – about the musical 'Hamilton'
Bandsplain – about bands

Philosophy

Philosophy Bites -
The History of Philosophy Without the Gaps –
You Are Not So Smart – Explores overconfidence and irrationality

Politics

Power and Politics -daily

The House – weekly CBC Radio

Religion and Spirituality

The Every Little Thing – answering your nagging questions?

Science

Quirks and Quarks

Radiolab

How did this get made?

Cocaine and Rhinestones –

Science Friday -

Completely Arbotrary – about trees

Self Improvement

The Tim Ferriss Show – personal development

Jocko Podcast – how to perform under pressure, lead with confidence, etc.

How to Do Everything

Beautiful Stories from Anonymous People -

Social Justice/Civil Rights

Driving the Green Book –

1619 – legacy of slavery

Social/ Culture – General or Covering many topics

No Such Thing as a Fish – weekly discussion of 4 interesting facts

TED talks Daily -

Stuff You Should Know – wide range of topics

You're Wrong About – explore how collective understandings are mistaken

Sports

The Right Time – sports – three/week

Story Telling

Everything is Alive – biweekly - imaginary story told from the perspective of an object
(Louis, a can of coke)

This American Life – weekly - Audio storytelling about life in America

The Memory Place – biweekly - story telling about the past

Just the Gist – weekly - story telling without all the little details
Backstage at the Vinyl Café – weekly - Canadian

World News

The Daily – daily The New York Times journalists
The World in Brief – daily from the Economist
The World at six – daily CBC News

General podcast recommendations

<https://collegeinfo geek.com/best-podcasts/>

<https://www.timeout.com/things-to-do/best-podcasts>

<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/best-podcasts>

<https://thepowergroup.com/top-5-news-podcasts-to-keep-you-informed/> News podcasts

<https://discoverpods.com/educational-podcasts/>

<https://blog.podcast.co/inspire/best-news-podcasts>

<https://www.themanual.com/culture/the-best-podcasts-to-listen-to/#dt-heading-rabbit-hole>
allows you to listen to each podcast it highlights