



University
of Victoria



Faith and Race in Politics: Language, Media and the NDP Leadership Election

Jerald Sabin

Thursday, November 8

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Clearihue, Room C112

In this lecture, I analyze and compare English-Canadian and French-Canadian media responses to the candidacy of Jagmeet Singh, a turbaned Sikh, during the 2017 federal New Democratic Party leadership race. In French Canada, Mr. Singh's candidacy was portrayed as an issue of religious accommodation and tied to debates surrounding Bill 62, an act designed to limit the wearing of face coverings in Quebec. English Canadian media accounts cast his candidacy along racial lines. I argue that distinct media cultures — and, by extension, political cultures — in English and French Canada led to these differences in framing, and that candidates with intersecting identities could expect different treatment depending on the language of coverage in Canada.

Jerald Sabin is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and International Studies at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec. He is the co-author of *Religion and Canadian Party Politics* (2017).

<https://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/csrs/>