The History Department has recently launched a series of first year courses with biographical themes – Life Stories Seminars. These courses utilize the life of a single figure to illuminate and explore the historical questions and contexts of their times. The three courses offered in 2018-19 focus on Elizabeth 1, Nelson Mandela, and Saladin – 12th century Muslim political and military leader. Life Stories Seminars have a maximum enrollment of 25 and are designed to provide closer interaction with professors and peers than is available in large introductory courses. For students interested in an intimate classroom environment that rewards active participation, the Life Studies Seminars offer an ideal introduction to History at Dalhousie.