

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE:** CANADIAN NATIVE PEOPLE  
**CODE NO.:** NSA101-3  
**PROGRAM:** NATIVE COMMUNITY WORKER PROGRAM  
**SEMESTER:** ONE  
**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 1995  
**AUTHOR:** NATIVE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

REVISED: X

APPROVED:  DATE:  22k;  
Dean, School of Native Education  
and Training

## **I. PHILOSOPHY/GOALS:**

This course will provide the participants with an in-depth study into the evolving cultural transformation of Canada's original peoples. With an emphasis on the Anishnaabe (Ojibwe) life ways and world view, students will examine traditional philosophies and beliefs conducive to the survival of "Mother Earth" and humanity. Learning of the contributions Native peoples have made to Canadian society will rekindle a sense of pride and identity as well as a greater appreciation for First Nation cultures.

## **II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The students have earned credit for this course when they have reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. Identify the differences between what is ideal culture and real culture (example:
2. Describe and discuss origins of pre-contact Native cultures and original ways and compare with common anthropological and scientific viewpoints.
3. Identify chronological and significant events or transitions that influenced cultural and geographical changes within specific Native groups (Ojibwe, Cree and Iroquois).
4. Compare common characteristics of indigenous peoples globally in terms of their philosophies on life and their views of the world.
5. Describe Nishnaabe Bmaadsiwin and the importance of symbolism and the Medicine Wheel.
6. Evaluate Native contributions made to Canadian society and identify (past or present) Native role models
7. Analyze and assess the impact that cultural renewal is having on Native peoples within/outside of the communities.

## **III. TOPICS COVERED/LEARNING ACTIVITIES:**

1. **Introduction to the Culture**
  - \* definitions of culture and cultural anthropology
  - \* components of a culture
  - \* exploring the meaning of "ideal culture" and "real culture"
2. **Tracing the Origins of Pre-Contact Cultures and the Newcomers**
  - \* written history versus oral tradition
  - \* scientific theories versus creation beliefs
  - \* anthropological theories
  - \* petroglyphs and pictographs

**TOPICS COVERED/LEARNING ACTIVITIES CON'T**

- 3. The Effects of Contact with Newcomers**
  - \* historical time line of significant events
  - \* impact of the fur trade
  - \* the migration of the Anishnaabek
  - \* treaty relationships
  - \* colonialism and oppression
  - \* conversion/residential schools/cultural genocide
  - \* definitions of paternalism, assimilation and acculturation
  - \* concept of conquer and divide
- 4. Indigenous Cultures of Americas**
  - \* cultural universals defined
  - \* cultural and linguistic groups of Canada
  - \* definition of worldview
  - \* parallel characteristics of various indigenous worldviews and traditions
- 5. Rediscovering Original Lifeways of the Anishnaabek**
  - \* symbolism
  - \* concept of the circle and the Four Directions
  - \* concept of "original rights"
  - \* understanding egalitarianism in Anishnaabe Bmaadsiwin
- 6. Resurgence of Cultural Identity and Healing**
  - \* ethnocentrism defined and the need for cross-cultural understanding
  - \* the Medicine Wheel and the holistic approach to healing
  - \* balance between traditional and contemporary lifestyles
- 7. Contributions and Achievements**
  - \* "Indian Givers"
  - \* inspiring self-esteem and identity through positive Native rolemodels

**IV. EVALUATION METHODS:**

VIDEO REPORT	5%
MID-TERM EXAM	20%
MAJOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT	20%
PRESENTATION	25%
(Written 10% and Oral 15%)	
ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION	10%
FINAL EXAM	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

The **VIDEO REPORT** (5%) will be based on a video (TBA) selected to complement material taken in class. A handout will provide further details and will be handed out early in the semester by the instructor.

The **MID-TERM EXAM (20%)** and the **FINAL EXAM (20%)** will consist of short answer, true or false, fill in the blank and matching questions. The Mid-Term Exam will cover material from sections 1 to 3 and the FINAL EXAM will cover material from sections 4 to 7. A comprehensive review will be given in last class prior to the test. The review is extremely helpful for studying purposes and for clarifying various points. Try not to miss these reviews!

In the **MAJOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT (20%)**, the student will be required to interview an Elder and/or compile research material that reflects the changes (positively or negatively) that have occurred within a specific Native community (social, economic and political). This information will be helpful in highlighting the similarities and differences that exist in the communities to more general information on Native peoples provided in class. Suggested topics, interview questions and further information will be provided by the instructor early in the semester.

The **PRESENTATION (25%)** will provide the student with the opportunity to research and develop an informative presentation on a specific concern facing Native people today. The student will not only review the issue but describe what steps have been taken or can be taken by Native people to change the situation. Suggested topics and further information will be provided in a handout by the instructor.

Consistent **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (10%)** is not only encouraged but expected providing the student with the most ideal environment in which to contribute to and to learn about Canadian Native Peoples.

**V. RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Required Text; N/A

Articles: To be determined

Bibliography:

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES**

Students with special needs, e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, learning disabilities are encouraged to discuss required accommodations confidentially with the instructor.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of the students.

Assignments must be handed in typewritten format and will be penalized 1% per day late.