

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

FOUR SEASONS ANISHINAABE ART JOURNEY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Outline: Living Arts - Dgwaagi (Fall)  
Semester: 1996F  
Code Number: FSA 107  
Program: Four Seasons Anishinaabe Art Journey  
Author: School of Native Education  
Date: September 1996

APPROVED: *McDonnell*  
Dean, School of Native Education

DATE: *Aug 96*

**I. Philosophy/Goals**

Participants will study various living mediums of Anishinaabe art and explore the use of those mediums. The course will foster an understanding of the role art has in the preservation and retention of the Anishinaabe culture. Living Arts - Dgwaagi (Fall) will focus on gathering plants for paints and dyes, traditional leather tanning and an introduction to leather working. The Ojibwe language will be used when possible in this course.

**II. Student Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

Use basic Anishinaabe words pertaining to tanning.

Gather, store, and process plants for making dyes.

Prepare hides.

Complete leather projects.

**III. Topics to be Covered:**

Plant gathering:

Plants used in paints

Plants used in dyes

Plants used for food

Sweetgrass

Brain tanning

Leather working

Bags and Pouches

Clothing

**IV. Learning Activities and Assignments**

**A. Plant Gathering**

The class will learn about plants in the area that are used to make dyes and paints, or for food, and will be shown dried examples of such plants. The proper methods for the gathering of such plants will also be discussed.



Field trips will then be conducted so that students will be able to identify the plants in their natural environment, and plants will be gathered. The class will then be instructed in the making of dyes and paints from the plants gathered. Porcupine quills or fibres may be dyed for use in later courses.

Assignment 1: Plant book

Choose 10 plants, identify them, describe where they are found, and how they are used. Include a drawing, or other image of the plant discussed.

B. Brain Tanning

The students will be instructed in traditional tanning processes. The class will work together to process a hide.

C. Leather Working

\* Getting Started

There are various types of leather grains such as moose, deer, snake, cow and suede that you will be shown. This information will help you to select the needed leather for your craft project. Tools of the craft will also be introduced and demonstrated.

\*Assignment 2: Leather Project

Suggested Project choices:

Novice: children's vest, purse, pouch, feather case

Intermediate: Leggings, moccasins, adult vest, children's regalia

Experienced: shirt, dress, jacket, adult's regalia

V. Evaluation

A final grade will be derived as follows:

Attendance and participation		30%
Journal	15%	
Exam I	15%	
Assignment 1		10%
Assignment 2		20%
Final Assignment	<u>10%</u>	
Total	100%	



**Attendance and Participation:**

Since this course is for the most part a studio course, attendance and participation play a large role. Moreover, large portions of the instruction will be delivered by guest speakers, so missing classes will make completing course work difficult.

**Journal:**

This is for you to record your progress, ideas, draw designs, etc. It is also a place to reflect on class, and ask questions that may not have been covered in class as you think of them.

Exam I will cover plant gathering and natural tanning.

**Final Assignment:**

Write a minimum 4 page paper discussing your project completed for assignment #2. Please include discussions on:

- \*process
- \*technique
- \*inspiration

Please feel free to draw upon material from your journal for this paper.

All assignments may be re-done for a better grade.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

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

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

Significant learning takes place in the classroom through an interactive learning approach, therefore, ALL students must attend 60% of the classes to obtain a passing grade.

ALL assignments are to be handed in on the due date and are to be typewritten. Any late assignments will be penalized 1% per each day late.

**COLLEGE EVALUATION SYSTEM:**

Letter grades, for transcript purposes, will be calculated as follows:

90% - 100% = A+

80% - 89% = A

70% - 79% = B

69% - 69% = C

Below 60% = R (Repeat of the course)