
Course Name

Code No.**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will increase knowledge and awareness of important cultural differences in the Aboriginal cultures of Canada. Understanding these differences will provide a basis for understanding the current issues both legal and social facing First Nations people today. Critical issues include land claims, justice and social issues, to name a few.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Compare commonly accepted theories of Native origin to the oral history as told by various groups of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Outline the significance of oral versus written historical accounts of Native origins
 - Describe the significance of the land to Native people based on their traditional cultures and spirituality
2. Compare and contrast the historical changes that affected Native populations as a result of European contact from a cultural, political, social and economic perspective.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Identify the core Native cultural groups and their general characteristics that had existed traditionally within the area of Canada.
- Explain the differences between the ten Native linguistic groups represented in Canada.
- Describe the development of the Metis as a distinctive cultural group.
- Explain the impact of colonization and the subsequent effect it had on the Aboriginal traditional way of living.
- Explain the significance of the land and land appropriation to Native and Non-Native relationships.
- Describe specific treaties negotiations entered between various Native First Nations and the European/Canadian governments.
- Identify specific historical issues affecting Native groups as a result of the changes brought about by European contact .
- Explain how cultural differences have contributed to Native issues.

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3. Identify current legal and social issues and explain how these issues perpetuate each other negatively.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Compare the current forms of justice with Native peoples' traditional forms of social control
- Compare and contrast Native living conditions to the general Canadian population
- Explain the correlation between all of the social, cultural, political, judicial and other ills affecting Native peoples.
- Explain the current climate of Native/Canadian government relations and its impact on specific Native issues.

4. Identify current strategies employed to address the issues facing Native peoples in a variety of areas – social, political, economic, cultural, and (with a greater emphasis) judicial.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain the awakening of a collective Native voice and the role of self-determination in addressing Native concerns.
- Identify the role of key Native organizations in addressing Native issues.
- Describe various programs/services/strategies implemented to address Native issues and concerns.

III. TOPICS:

1. Origins of Native People of Canada
2. Native Cultures Prior to European Contact
3. Impact of Colonization on First Nations' People
4. Treaty Making – Loss of Native Lands and Native Autonomy
5. Native Assimilation Laws and Practices – Prior to and Within the Confines of the Indian Act
6. Socio-Economic Issues and Their Ramification for First Nations People
7. Current Native Judicial Issues and Addresses

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IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

P. Williamson (1999) First Nations Peoples. Emond Montgomery Publications Ltd.: Toronto.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

<u>Assignments/Exams</u>	<u>Worth</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Mid-Term Exam	25%	Wk .of Feb. 14
Current Issues Assignment	20%	Wk. of Mar. 6
Judicial Issues Presentation	30%	Wks. of Apr. 10-24
Final Exam	25%	Wk. Of Apr. 24

The **MID-TERM** and **FINAL EXAMS** will be comprised primarily of short answer questions. The Final exam will include one essay style question (students will have three to select from). The Mid-term exam will cover units 1 to 4 and the Final exam will include material covered in units 5-7.

In the **CURRENT ISSUES ASSIGNMENT**, the students will compile 20 separate news items relating to Native people that relate to a specific issue or that discuss a strategy(s) or is a new developments that addresses a specific issue. The articles should cover a minimum of four different categories – political, environmental, spiritual, cultural, judicial, social, etc.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	3.75
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
R (Repeat)	59% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
X	A temporary grade. This is used in limited situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a	

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course (see *Policies & Procedures Manual – Deferred Grades and Make-up*).
Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
This is used to facilitate transcript preparation when, for extenuating circumstances, it has been impossible for the faculty member to report grades.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1204 or call Extension 493, 717, or 491 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course, as may be decided by the professor. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

<include any other special notes appropriate to your course>

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

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Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the instructor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of the following:

VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.