

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Aboriginal peoples of Canada have various dynamic and diverse cultures that provide a tightly-woven connection between the environment and the identity, lifestyle and values of Aboriginal peoples. An introduction to Canadian Aboriginal worldview and culture will provide a beginning to cultural competence. Legal, political and social influences and catalysts which have affected Aboriginal Canadian culture will be covered to come to an awareness and understanding of historical/current issues and future paths. This course meets the General Education Theme #3, Social and Cultural Understanding.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

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

1. Identify core concepts in Aboriginal worldview and philosophy.**Potential Elements of the Performance:**

- Distinguish between culture and worldview.
- Define universals in North American Aboriginal worldview.
- Utilize a working terminology

2. Communicate the dynamic nature of the core values of Native peoples as reflected in the Medicine Wheel teachings, importance of original languages and oral traditions.**Potential Elements of Performance:**

- Relate an understanding of how oral traditions in a variety of Canadian Native cultures communicate origins, values, politics and social structure and become a basis for modern life.
- Identify the relationship between culture, identity and language and how this relationship remains dynamic in today's society.
- Communicate an awareness that traditional teachings are embedded with core values, spirituality and connection to the land for Canada's Native peoples

3. Be an informed citizen regarding the integral, tightly-woven relationship between their environment and the identity, lifestyle and values of the various First Nation peoples across Canada.**Potential Elements of Performance:**

- Differentiate between the First Nation cultures indigenous to the Arctic, the Eastern Woodlands, the Eastern Subarctic, the Western Subarctic, the Plains, the Plateau and the Northwest Coast of Canada.
- Identify key natural resources for each area and their interconnectedness with the lifestyle, values and culture of the First Nation peoples indigenous to each area.

4. Demonstrate an understanding of the effects of colonization on Aboriginal Canadians.

Potential Elements of Performance:

- Apply core pieces of the colonization process to the Aboriginal experience in Canada
- Trace the historical roots of the Treaties in First Nation/Federal government relationship
- Connect the circumstances relating to Métis Scrip to their legal status as an Aboriginal group in Canada
- Explore the impact of the Aboriginal Canadian experience on current relationships in contemporary society

5. Integrate the concepts of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) as an alternative paradigm vital to partnerships for stewardship of the land.

Potential Elements of Performance:

- Define the concepts inherent in TEK
- Trace the integral role of TEK to the historical survival of Canadian Aboriginal people
- Explore the connection between Culture and Nature

III. TOPICS:

1. Introduction to Aboriginal Cultures, Worldview and related Terminology
2. Storytelling as Key Source
Language, Traditions, Culture
4. Diversity in Cultures and Environmental Relationships
5. Effects of Colonization
6. Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

No Required Text

Traditional Stories from Cultures Across the Various Regions of Canada will be used in the course

Supplemental materials will be provided by the professor *The Sault College Library has an excellent collection of Native books, newspapers and recommended Internet sites. Check them out!

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

<u>Assignment/Exam</u>	<u>Weight(%)</u>	<u>Due Date</u> (estimated, specific dates to be given during the semester by the instructor)
Mid-Term Exam	25%	Week 8
Participation	5%	Ongoing
Video Report	15%	Week 10
Issue Presentation	30%	Week 14, 15
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>	Week 13
TOTAL	100%	

There will be a **MID-TERM** and a **FINAL EXAM**. The first exam will cover the first half of the semester and the second exam will be based on the remaining material after midterm. Exams cannot be re-written to receive a higher grade. Students who miss the exam without making **prior** arrangements with the instructor will be given a zero on the exam. Exams are open note therefore excellent attendance is required for students to obtain excellent notes.

The **VIDEO REPORT** will be completed by students in relation to one of the videos presented in class connected to course material. It will be 3 – 5, double spaced, 12 font, APA formatted pages in length and apply course material to information presented in the video/speaker presentation. Specifics to be provided by the professor. This is an individual assignment.

The **ISSUES PRESENTATION** will provide students with the opportunity to research, develop, present and submit an informative response to a specific and current issue facing First Nations people. The students will be work in groups to accomplish this assignment. **Each group will be given 20-30 minutes to present their research and what they have gained from it. The presentations will examine the ramifications of this issue** from the perspective of all of the groups/people affected by the issue. Information should **include Aboriginal service organizations and/or political organizations involved with the issue. Historical and current information regarding the issue should be included.** Delivery of the presentation **must include a PowerPoint** of the material presented. At least 5 different sources must be used for this research. All sources must be referenced in a **Reference Page**. It will be created in APA style and submitted to the professor on the day of the presentation. The professor will provide further details.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

ALL Students must attend 60% of scheduled classes to attain a passing grade in this course. Assignments must be submitted in typewritten format. **A late assignment will be accepted up to five calendar days late and will be penalized 1% /day late. No assignments can be submitted for grades after the fifth calendar late day.**

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.