

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING**

**IL-1100 - Introduction to Indigenous Learning
2008 - 2009 Regular Session**

**Instructor: Dr. R.S. Robson
Telephone: 343-8973**

**Office: Ryan Building, Room
Email: rrobson@lakeheadu.ca**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers students an introduction to the life experience of Indigenous Peoples. As such, it is intended to provide an overview of both the historical and the contemporary circumstances of the Aboriginal community. Themes considered include traditional hunting practices, patterns of trade, community development and family relations. As well, students will be encouraged to pursue such contemporary issues as resource management, health-care, justice, education and community well-being.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

There is one required textbook for the course, Olive Dickason, *A Concise History of Canada's First Nations*, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2006 (hereafter Dickason). Students are expected to follow the weekly readings as indicated in the course outline. As well, additional reading material may be assigned during the term and students are also expected to complete the additional reading assignments as requested.

DISCUSSION CLASSES

Approximately thirty minutes per week will be devoted to discussion. Discussion will be based on the reading assignments from Dickason. Students are not only expected to follow the readings as assigned in the course outline but they are also expected to participate willingly in the classroom discussion.

BOOK REVIEW

A book review of approximately 1,000 words is required. Students will select a book from the prepared list of First Nations' "Biographies and Autobiographies" and write a critical evaluation (both positive and negative) of the same. Book reviews are due Wednesday, October 1, 2008.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

A Mid-Term Examination is scheduled for Wednesday, November 26, 2008. The Mid-Term Examination will include all course work covered to that point of the term

GROUP PROJECT

Students will participate in a group project which will focus on the analysis of a contemporary First Nation's issue. Working in groups of five or six people, students are asked to develop one of the issues from the "Contemporary Issues List" and submit a formal report documenting the circumstances of the same. Students are encouraged to consider a variety of reporting techniques (i.e. oral, video, poster, play-acting, etc.) in the preparation of their final report. At the same time, the reports should consider a variety of source materials and should be based on an array of research methods. Research reports are due Wednesday, January 28, 2009.

ESSAYS

An essay of approximately 2,000 words is required. Students are encouraged to select a topic of their choosing but should do so in consultation with the instructor. The essay should be a formal presentation of research findings and should include a well thought out thesis or argument supported by both footnote and bibliographic references. Essays are due Wednesday, March 13, 2009.

FINAL EXAMINATION

A final examination of approximately three hours duration is scheduled for the end of the second term.

EVALUATION

Discussion Class	10%
Book Review	10%
Mid-Term Examination	15%
Group Project	15%
Essay	20%
Final Examination	<u>30%</u>
	100%

OUTLINE

Week I - September 8 - September 12

Lecture - Introduction

Discussion - Introduction

Week II - September 15 - September 19

Lecture - Canada's First Peoples

Discussion - Dickson, Chapter 1.

Week III - September 22 - September 26

Lecture - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Migratory Peoples

Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 2.

- Week IV** - **September 29 - October 3**
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Agricultural Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 3.
- Week V** - **October 6 - October 10**
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Plains Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 4.
- Week VI** - **October 13 - October 17**
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Pacific Coast Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 5.
- Week VII** - **October 20 - October 24**
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Cordillera
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 6.
- Week VIII** - **October 27 - October 31**
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Yukon and McKenzie Basin
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 7.
- Week IX** - **November 3 - November 7**
Lecture - European Contact
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 8.
- Week X** - **November 10 - November 14**
Lecture - Conflict and Crisis
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 9.
- Week XI** - **November 17 - November 21**
Lecture - The New Nation: The Metis Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 10.
- Week XII** - **November 24 - November 28**
Lecture - Resistance on the Plains
* Mid-Term Examination.
- Week XIII** - **January 5 - January 9**
Lecture - Confederation and the Dominion Government's
"Indian Policy"
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 11.
- Week XIV** - **January 12 - January 16**
Lecture - Treaties
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 12.

- Week XV** - **January 19 - January 23**
Lecture - The Indian Act
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 13.
- Week XVI** - **January 26 - January 30**
Lecture - The North
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 14.
- Week XVII** - **February 2 - February 6**
Lecture - The Demographics of the First Nations Community
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 15.
- Week XVIII** - **February 9 - February 13**
Lecture - Government Policy
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 16.
- Week XIX** - **February 23 - February 27**
Lecture - The First Nations Response
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 17.
- Week XX** - **March 2 - March 6**
Lecture - Resources and Resource Use
Discussion - Group Presentation.
- Week XXI** - **March 9 - March 13**
Lecture - The Reserve Community
Discussion - Group Presentation.
- Week XXII** - **March 16 - March 20**
Lecture - The Urban Community
Discussion - Group Presentation.
- Week XXIII** - **March 23 - March 27**
Lecture - Self-Determination
Discussion - Group Presentation.
- Week XXIV** - **March 30 - April 3**
Lecture - Contemporary Issues
Discussion - Group Presentation.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES LIST

Health-care	Indian Act
Housing	Justice
Land Claims	Indian Act
Family	First Nations' Women
Community	First Nations' Political Organizations
Education	Self-Government
Justice	Environment
Indian Act	Hydro
First Nations' Women	Imagery
First Nations' Political Organizations	Trapping
Self-Government	Hunting
Environment	Fishing
Health-care	Forestry
Housing	Mining
Land Claims	Business Development
Family	Media
Community	Indigenous Learning/Native Studies
Education	Gambling
Justice	

BIOGRAPHIES AND AUTOBIOGRAPHIES

D. Barnett, *Poundmaker*
R. Buck (ed) *Voices of the Plains Cree*
M. Blackman, *During My Time*
J. Brand, *The Life and Death of Anna Mae Aquash*
M. Campbell, *Half-Breed*
J. Cruikshank, A. Sidney, K. Smith and A. Ned, *Life Saved Like a Story*
H. Dempsey (ed) *Mike Mountain Horse, Crowfoot, The Gentle Persuader: A Biography of James Gladstone, Red Crow*
M. Dobbin, *The One and a Half Men*
R. Edmunds, *Tecumseh and the Quest for Indian Leadership*
Enemikeese, *The Indian Chief 1867*
T. Fidler and J. Stevens, *Killing the Shamen*
T. Flanagan, *Louis "David" Riel*
R. Flannery, Ellen Smallboy: *Glimpses of a Cree Women's Life*
C. Ford (ed) *Smoke from their Fires*
M. Freedman, *Quallunuut*
A. French, *The Restless Nomad*
J. Goodwill and N. Sluman, *John Tootosis*
C. Hatcher, *Crowfoot*
H. Howard, *Warchief Joseph*

B. Hungry Wolf, *The Ways of My Grandmother*
B. Johnston, *Crazy Dave,*
Indian School Days
I. Kelsay, *Joseph Brant*
D. Kennedy, *Recollections of an Assiniboine Chief*
J. (Fire) Lame Deer and R. Erdoes, *Lame Deer*
M. Metayer, *I, Nuligak*
E. Minde, F. Ahenakew and C. Wolfart, *Kwayask j kn pj Kiskinowbpahtihicik*
J. Newhardt, *Black Elk Speaks*
D.B. Smith, *Sacred Feathers*
M.F. Steltankamp, Black Elk: *Holy Man of the Oglala*
J. Stevens (ed) *Great Leader of the Ojibway Misquona-queb*
J. Spradley (ed) *Guests Never Leave Hungry*
F. Taylor, *Standing Alone: A Contemporary Blackfoot Indian*
A. Thompson, *Chief Peguis*
J. Usher, *William Duncan of Metlakatla*
R.M. Vanderburgh, *I am Nokomis: The Biography of Verna Patronella*
R. Whitehead, *Tracking Doctor Lonecloud*
K. Winter, *Shananpitt: Last of the Beothuk*