

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING**

1100 - Introduction to Indigenous Learning

2009 - 2010 Regular Session

**Instructor: Dr. R.S. Robson
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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 Thursday, October 16, 2009. Late book reviews will not be accepted.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

A Mid-Term Examination is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2009. 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 Thursday, January 28, 2010. Late research reports will not be accepted.

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 Thursday, March 11, 2010. Late essays will not be accepted.

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 7 - September 11
Lecture - Introduction
Discussion - Introduction
- Week II** - September 14 - September 18
Lecture - Canada's First Peoples
Discussion - Dickson, Chapter 1.
- Week III** - September 21 - September 25
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Migratory Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 2.
- Week IV** - September 28 - October 2
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Agricultural Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 3.
- Week V** - October 5 - October 9
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Plains Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 4.
- Week VI** - October 12 - October 16
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Pacific Coast Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 5.
- Week VII** - October 19 - October 23
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Cordillera
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 6.
- Week VIII** - October 26 - October 30
Lecture - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Yukon and McKenzie Basin
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 7.
- Week IX** - November 2 - November 6
Lecture - European Contact
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 8.
- Week X** - November 9 - November 13
Lecture - Conflict and Crisis
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 9.
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- Week XI** - November 16 - November 20

Lecture - The New Nation: The Metis Peoples
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 10.

Week XII - November 23 - November 27
Lecture - Resistance on the Plains
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 11.

Week XIII - November 30 - December 4
*** Mid-Term Examination**

Week XIII - January 4 - January 8
Lecture - Confederation and the Dominion Government's "Indian Policy"
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 12.

Week XIV - January 11 - January 15
Lecture - Treaties
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 13.

Week XV - January 18 - January 22
Lecture - The Indian Act
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 14.

Week XVI - January 25 - January 29
Lecture - The North
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 15.

Week XVII - February 1 - February 5
Lecture - The Demographics of the First Nations Community
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 16.

Week XVIII -February 8 - February 12
Lecture - Government Policy
Discussion - Dickason, Chapter 17.

Week XIX - February 22 - February 26
Lecture - The First Nations Response
Discussion - Group Presentation.

Week XX - March 1 - March 5
Lecture - Resources and Resource Use
Discussion - Group Presentation.

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Week XXI - March 8 - March 12

Lecture - The Reserve Community
Discussion - Group Presentation.

Week XXII - March 15 - March 19
Lecture - The Urban Community
Discussion - Group Presentation.

Week XXIII -March 22 - March 26
Lecture - Self-Determination
Discussion - Group Presentation.

Week XXIV -March 29 - April 2
Lecture - Contemporary Issues
Discussion - Group Presentation.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES LIST

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

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

