

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING**

**1100 - Introduction to Indigenous Learning**

**2012 - 2013 Regular Session**

**Instructor: Dr. R.S. Robson**

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Room 3022  
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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 and William Newbigging, A Concise History of Canada's First Nations, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2010 (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 17, 2012. Late book reviews will not be accepted.

### **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

A Mid-Term Examination is scheduled for Wednesday, November 28, 2012. 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 will develop one of the issues from the "Contemporary Issues List" and deliver a classroom presentation on the same. Students are encouraged to consider a variety of reporting techniques (i.e. video, poster, play-acting, debate, etc.). Group projects should, as well, consider a variety of source materials and should be based on an array of research methods. Presentations will take place during the month of March.

### **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, February 13, 2013. 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%

3.

**OUTLINE**

- Week I** - September 10 - September 14  
**Lecture** - Introduction  
**Discussion** - Introduction
- Week II** - September 17 - September 21  
**Lecture** - Canada's First Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 1.
- Week III** - September 24 - September 28  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Migratory Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 2.
- Week IV** - October 1 - October 5  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Eastern Woodlands Agricultural Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 3.
- Week V** - October 8 - October 12  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Plains Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 4.
- Week VI** - October 15 - October 19  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Pacific Coast Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 5.
- Week VII** - October 22 - October 26  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Cordillera  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 6.
- Week VIII** - October 29 - November 2  
**Lecture** - Cultural Areas - Peoples of the Yukon and McKenzie Basin  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 7.
- Week IX** - November 5 - November 9  
**Lecture** - European Contact  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 8.
- Week X** - November 12 - November 16  
**Lecture** - Conflict and Crisis  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 9.

4.

- Week XI** - November 19 - November 23  
**Lecture** - The New Nation: The Metis Peoples  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 10.
- Week XII** - November 26 - November 30  
\* Mid-Term Examination.
- Week XIII** - January 7 - January 11  
**Lecture** - Resistance on the Plains  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 11.
- Week XIV** - January 14 - January 18  
**Lecture** - Confederation and the Dominion Government's "Indian Policy"  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 12.
- Week XV** - January 21 - January 25  
**Lecture** - Treaties  
**Discussion** - Chapter 13.
- Week XVI** - January 28 - February 1  
**Lecture** - The Indian Act  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 14.
- Week XVII** - February 4 - February 8  
**Lecture** - The North  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 15.
- Week XVIII** - February 11 - February 15  
**Lecture** - The Demographics of the First Nations Community  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 16.
- Week XIX** - February 25 - March 1  
**Lecture** - Government Policy  
**Discussion** - Dickason, Chapter 17 & 18..
- Week XX** - March 4 - March 8  
**Lecture** - The First Nations Response  
**Discussion** - Group Presentation.

5.

**Week XXI** - March 11 - March 15  
**Lecture** - Resources and Resource Use  
**Discussion** - Group Presentation.

**Week XXII** - March 18 - March 22  
**Lecture** - The Reserve Community  
**Discussion** - Group Presentation.

**Week XXIII** - March 25 - March 29  
**Lecture** - The Urban Community  
**Discussion** - Group Presentation.

**Week XXIV** - April 1 - April 5  
**Lecture** - Review  
**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) Lane 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

