

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERESITY
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING**

**1310 - Method and Approaches Applied
to Indigenous Learning**

2012 Fall Session

Instructor: Dr. R.S. Robson

**Office: Ryan Building,
Room 3022**

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to offer students a foundation for the interpretation of the issues associated with the process of Indigenous Learning as well as an understanding of the methodology necessary to the pursuit of Indigenous Learning. While the course provides an interdisciplinary approach to the subject matter, borrowing readily from disciplines such as anthropology, archaeology and history, it focuses more specifically on the use of oral tradition, art and/or material culture as the means of acquiring a well rounded understanding of Indigenous Learning.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

There is one required textbook for the course, Shawn Wilson, Research is Ceremony, Indigenous Research Methods, Halifax: Fernwood Publishing, 2008. Students are expected to have read the textbook by the end of the term and to be willing to participate in textbook discussion. As well, additional reading material may be assigned during the term and students are expected to complete additional reading assignments as requested.

WORKSHOPS

Approximately forty-five minutes of the Wednesday classroom period will be devoted to workshop activity. Students are expected to attend each and every workshop session and to be willing participants in the workshop activity. Students are responsible for preparing and submitting a one page summary report of the workshop activity. The summary reports will highlight both the strengths and the weaknesses of the activity pursued.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESEARCH PROJECT

Students will select a topic from the Research Topic List and will prepare and submit a ten item annotated bibliography of source material relevant to the selected topic. Students are encouraged to consider a variety of source materials, ranging from journal articles to oral knowledge, in the preparation of the annotated bibliography. The Bibliographic Research

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Project is due Wednesday, October 3, 2012. Late Bibliographic Research Projects will not be accepted.

ORAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Utilizing the equipment supplied by the Department of Indigenous Learning, students will undertake an Oral Research Project. As part of the Project, students will select an informant, prepare an interview schedule, conduct an interview, write a summary transcript and a subject heading catalogue and submit their findings by Wednesday, November 21, 2012. Late Oral Research Projects will not be accepted.

FINAL EXAMINATION

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

EVALUATION

Workshop Summaries	10%
Workshop Participation	15%
Bibliographic Research Project	20%
Oral Research Project	25%
Final Examination	<u>30%</u>
	100%

OUTLINE

Week I - September 10 - September 14

Lecture - Introduction

Workshop - Introduction

Week II - September 17 - September 21

Lecture - Resources and Resource Recognition

Workshop - Local Resources

Week III - September 24 - September 28

Lecture - Language

Workshop - The Use of Language

Week IV - October 1 - October 5

Lecture - The Spoken Word

Workshop - The Oral Tradition

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Week V - October 8 - October 12

Lecture - The Story/Legend

Workshop - The Story/Legend

Week VI - October 15 - October 19

Lecture - The Non-Written Tradition

Workshop - The Non-Written Tradition

Week VII - October 22 - October 26

Lecture - Traditional Knowledge

Workshop - TEK

Week VIII - October 29 - November 2

Lecture - Material Culture

Workshop - Material Culture

Week IX - November 5 - November 9

Lecture - Cultures in Conflict

Workshop - What is Appropriate ?

Week X - November 12 - November 16

Lecture - A Scholarly Understanding

Workshop - Rethinking the Book

Week XI - November 19 - November 23

Lecture - Government Generated Resources

Workshop - Census Materials

Week XII - November 26 - November 30

Lecture - Media

Workshop - Reading the News

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RESEARCH TOPICS

**Midewin
Health-care
Housing
Economic Development
Land Claims
Sun Dance
Family
Community Relocation
Education
Justice
Indian Act
First Nations Women
First Nations Political Organizations
Pow-wow
Self-government
Hydro
Trapping
Hunting
Fishing
Forestry
Potlatch**