

Lakehead University
Department of Indigenous Learning
January 2007

INDIGENOUS LEARNING 2711 (INDI-2711-WA)

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, MYTH, AND DRAMA

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Description:	Indigenous oral tradition as a form of art. Concepts of narrative are explored by acting out myth and stories. Acting styles are developed using body movements and voice (diction and interpretation). Creative expression is developed through writing, acting and cultural self-awareness.
Course Times:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 pm-5:30 pm (January 3 to April 3, 2007)
Course Location:	Centennial Building 4056
Course Instructor:	Peter Rasevych M.A., H.B.A., B.A., D.E.C.
Contact Info:	pmrasevy@lakeheadu.ca
Office Location:	Ryan Building 1007
Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30am-12:00pm (or by appointment)
Office Phone:	343-8424

COURSE OBJECTIVES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Provide an overview of the importance of myth and drama in the lives of Aboriginal people.
- 2) Synthesize information from examination of the past and current practices and performances of myth and drama in the Aboriginal community.

- 3) Gain knowledge and experience through participation in myth and dramatic activities.
- 4) Demonstrate an understanding of Indigenous peoples, myth, and drama by utilizing physical and visual images in dramatic exploration.

COURSE CONTENT

Drama and theatre training will be conducted through workshops, lectures, hands-on activities working in pairs and groups, and performances. We will gain knowledge of the Stanislavski System of Method Acting. We will be involved with studying contemporary First Nations playwrights such as Daniel David Moses, Drew Hayden Taylor, and others. Not only will we examine contemporary Aboriginal theatre groups and Aboriginal film acting in Canada, but we will also explore traditional Aboriginal myth and legend by participating in, performing, and experiencing myth through dramatic activities.

COURSE TEXTS

Selected and placed on reserve in the Lakehead University Library.

COURSE EVALUATION

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| 1) Individual performances: | 15% | (3 performances @ 5%) |
| 2) Pairs performances: | 15% | (3 performances @ 5%) |
| 3) Small group performances: | 15% | (3 performances @ 5%) |
| 4) Group Theatre Performance: | 20% | (Performed last week of class) |
| 5) Playwrighting Assignment | 15% | (Due at Mid-Term) |
| 6) Attendance / Participation: | 10% | |
| 7) Weekly Journals: | 10% | (Ten Journals @ 1%) |