

Department of Indigenous Learning

Indi/Wome 3613 WA: Indigenous Women and Their Changing Roles ATAC 1006

Instructor: MaryLou Lafleur
Email: mlafleur@lakeheadu.ca

Office: RB-1007 (Dr. R. Farrell's Office)
Phone: 807-343-8187

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. or by appointment

Overview:

Indigenous Learning 3613: This course examines Indigenous women and their changing roles from the past to contemporary situations in Indigenous communities. Specific topics to be discussed are: the effects of the fur trade, the Indian Act, native women's organizations, residential schooling, patterns of abuse, spirituality and religion, Indigenous women as writers and artists, and as leaders and role models. We will also examine the social, political, economic, and psychological situations of Indigenous women in relation to Indigenous communities and the dominant Western society. Further, we will look at questions of difference and on working together.

Objectives:

Upon completion of INDI 3613, students will:

Be informed about the importance of Indigenous women's activities and contribution to both Indigenous and mainstream societies in the past, the present and for the future.

- Be able to place Indigenous women in local, global, historical and contemporary patterns of colonialism, modernism, and resistance.
- Develop an appreciation for the strengths of Indigenous' cultural traditions
- Understand the patterns of systemic abuse and oppression that have arisen from colonialism and residential schooling
- Explore ways to reshape negative consequences and develop positive approaches at both the individual and community level

Required Text:

Campbell, Maria. 1973. *Halfbreed*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press. (see bookstore)

Silman, Janet, ed. 1987. *Enough is Enough, Aboriginal Women Speak Out*. Toronto: Women's Press. (see bookstore)

Mankiller, Wilma Pearl. 2004. *Every Day Is a Good Day: Reflections by Contemporary Indigenous Women*. Fulcrum Publishing. (see bookstore)

Brass, Eleanor. 1987. *I Walk in Two Worlds*. (see bookstore)

Evaluation System:

To receive credit for INDI 3613, you must complete successfully the following assignments. The weighting of the composite course grade is as follows:

Outline	10 marks	February 7 th
Midterm Essay	20 marks	February 14 th
Research Project	25 marks	April 2 nd
Presentations on Research	10 marks	March 26 th & 28 th
Final Examination	35 marks	April Examination Period
Total	100 marks	

Last date for withdrawal without academic penalty: March 6TH, 2007

Students should retain a copy of papers submitted (in case of loss).

Late Policy & Incomplete Standing:

It is the responsibility of the student to complete all work in accordance with the time schedule communicated by the instructor at the beginning of the course. Circumstances beyond one's control may at times make it difficult for a student to hand in an assignment on time. In such cases, a student should speak with the instructor in advance of the deadline to discuss a modest extension. Assignments handed in late without prior approval or after the date of a pre-arranged extension, will be docked 1 mark per day late (7 days maximum). After, 7 days the student will receive a zero grade for the uncompleted portion of the work. This grade will hold unless a Change of Mark form is submitted by the instructor and approved by the Chairperson and the Dean.

Plagiarism:

See the university website for policies www.lakeheadu.ca

Participation:

This is an important aspect of the learning environment for this course. Students are expected to be prepared and to participate fully in classroom discussions, and short presentations based on your research project, etc.

Outline of Lectures:

Date	Topic
Jan 3	Course details and information (<i>Handout</i>)
Jan 8	Lecture: Stereotypes and Defining Indigenous Women
Jan 10	Seminar: (<i>Johnson; Akiwenzie-Damm, WM - F,I,P,A,C,Context</i>)
Jan 15	Lecture: From the Fur Trade to 20 th Century
Jan 17	Seminar: Colonialism & Assimilation: (<i>Van Kirk; Carter</i>)
Jan 22	Lecture: Residential School
Jan 24	Seminar: Residential School: Video="Violation of Trust" (<i>Brass</i>)
Jan 29	Lecture: Metis: (<i>Campbell</i>)
Jan 31	Seminar: Metis: (<i>Campbell</i>)
Feb 5	Lecture: Activism: (<i>Silman</i>)
Feb 7	Seminar: Activism: (<i>Silman</i>) – Outline due today [inclass] (10%)

Feb 12 Lecture: Legislating Identity (*WM – Governance*)

Feb 14 **MIDTERM (20%)**

Feb 19-23 **SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES – SEE YOU NEXT WEEK**

Feb 26 Seminar: Vitality: (*Young & Nadeau, WM - Ceremony*)

Feb 28 Lecture: 2 Spirit & Gender: (*Jacobs, et. al., WM – Love, Harvest*)

Mar 5 Seminar: Violence: Video= “Honouring Our Voices” (*Razack; Smith*)

Mar 7 Lecture: International Response to Violence (*Amnesty International*)

Mar 12 Seminar: Voices: (*LaRocque; Maracle*)

Mar 14 Seminar: Identity: (*Kulusic; Spears, WM – Womanhood, Biographies*)

Mar 19 Seminar: Teachings: (*McGregor; Graveline; Blaney*)

Mar 21 Lecture: Indigenous Feminisms (*Mihesuah*)

Mar 26 Student Presentations of Original Research – Day 1

Mar 28 Student Presentations of Original Research – Day 2

April 2 Where Do We Go From Here? (*WM – The way home*)

Research Paper Due (25%)

April 4-10 **Study Period**

April 10-21 **Exam Period – Final Exam (35%)**

Format for written assignments: Please double space on 8.5x11 paper with 1-inch margins all around. Provide a title page, and staple in the top left-hand corner. Please do not submit your assignments with any type of cover, folder, or spine, and DO NOT use paper clips.

Outline for Research project: (February 7th) 10%

The outline should consist include an introduction to your topic, a thesis, and your plan of attack for writing the paper. The more you include the more feedback that I can give you that may aid your research. List all resources consulted with an annotated bibliography of at least two journal articles, and one other resource you have investigated (i.e. text/web/interview). Once submitted, outlines will be returned to students with comments and suggestions for continued research. Late outlines will be accepted until February 12th (with a 5-point deduction out of 10pts).

Individual Presentations: (March 26th & 28th)

On the last two days of class each student will give a 5 to 10 minute presentation on their research project.

Midterm essay: Wednesday, Feb 14 20%

The midterm exam will be an essay written in class. You will have a choice of topics that focus on the readings, lectures, presentations, discussions and videos. These questions will be given on Monday, Feb 12.

Final Exam: During April Exam Period 35%

The final exam will include all the material covered. Because of this course, the exam will have essay-style questions only. You will have some choice of questions. No reference materials may be used during the exam.

Research Paper: Wednesday, April 2 (25%)

This assignment is to research a topic relating to the changing roles of Indigenous women from cultural traditions of the past to contemporary situations in Indigenous' communities. Ideas will be suggested within the first week of classes and throughout the term.

Consider solutions to existing problems for Indigenous women. Please do not simply recount facts, rather balance your information gathered with a critical assessment of the literature. Be sure to support your arguments with appropriate citations and evidence. You should answer a specific question in your research paper. This question should be clearly laid out in your introduction.

The emphasis of this research paper is on the use of resources, the organization and synthesis of date you use to write the paper. The adequacy of your citations is extremely important; therefore, you should naturally pick a topic that is of interest to you. Do not rely on introductory textbooks – DO include journal articles and manuscripts/thesis reports from current literature. Refer to Latin American Antiquity journals for reference style. Style and grammar can cost you marks, so please invest in a proper style guide available in the library, or bookstore.

This paper should be 8-10 typewritten double-spaced pages (not including title page and references), and is not to exceed 11 pages – the idea is to formulate your ideas in a concise manner. The paper is due March 21st, 2007 please hand in paper during class or hand delivered during office hours of that day.

*no source should appear in the references cited page that is not cited in the body of your text

*no source should be cited in the text that does not appear in the list of references at the end of the paper.

Bibliography: (Required Readings for Course)

Akiwenzie-Damm, Kateria. *Erotica, Indigenous Style in (Ad)Dressing Our Words: Aboriginal Perspectives on Aboriginal Literatures*. Edited by Armand Garnet Ruffo. Penticton, BC: Theytus Books, 2001. 143-51. **PR 9123 I3A32 2001 (Paterson Library) – on 2hour Reserve**

Amnesty International. *Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence against Indigenous Women in Canada*. Ottawa: October 2004. <http://www.amnesty.ca/stolensisters/amr2000304.pdf>

Blaney, Fay. "Aboriginal Women's Action Network" *Strong Women Stories: Native Vision and Community Survival*. Eds. Kim Anderson & Bonita Lawrence. Toronto: Sumach P, 2003. 156-170. **E78 C2S815 2003 (Pat - 2 hour reserve)**

Carter, Sarah. "Categories and Terrains of Exclusion: Constructing the Indian Woman in the Early Settlement Era in Western Canada." In *Gender and History in Canada*. Editors Joy Parr and Mark Rosenfeld, Toronto: Copp Clark, 1996. **(Pat: 2 hour reserve)**

Graveline, Fyre Jean. "Imagine my surprise: Smudge teaches wholistic lessons" *Canadian Journal of Native Education*: 25.1 (2001): 6-18. **(Lib Electronic Link)**

Jacobs, Sue-Ellen, Wesley Thomas and Sabine Lange. "Introduction." In *Two-Spirit People: Native American Gender Identity, Sexuality, and Spirituality*. Eds. Jacobs, Sue-Ellen, Wesley Thomas and Sabine Lange. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1997. 1-18. **E98 S48T86 1997 (Pat)**

Johnson, E. Pauline. "A Strong Race Opinion: On the Indian Girl in Modern Fiction." Toronto, 1892. *Pauline Johnson Archive*. 4 Sept. 2006 <http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~pjohnson/writings.html>

Kulusic, Tamara. "The Ultimate Betrayal: Claiming and Re-Claiming Cultural Identity" *Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal* 29.2 (Spring/Summer 2005): 23-28. **HQ 1101 A88 (Paterson Periodicals) or online**

LaRocque, Emma. "Here Are Our Voices -- Who Will Hear?" In *Writing the Circle: Native Women of Western Canada*. Eds. Sylvia Vance, Jeanne Perreault. Edmonton: NeWest Publishers, 1990. xv-xxx. **PN 6069 I53W95 (Paterson Library) – on 2 hour reserve**

Maracle, Lee. "Native Myths: Trickster Alive and Crowing" In *Language in Her Eye: Writing and Gender*. Eds. Libby Scheier, Sara Sheard & Eleanor Wachtel. Toronto: Coach House P, 1990, 182-7. **PR 9188 L36 1990 (Paterson Library – also in Gender Issues Centre) – on 2 hour reserve**

McGregor, Deborah. "Traditional Ecological Knowledge: An Anishnabe Woman's Perspective." *Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal* 29.2 (Spring/Summer 2005): 125-137. **HQ 1101 A88 (Paterson Periodicals) or online**

Mihesuah, Devon A. "A Few Cautions on the Merging of Feminist Studies with Indigenous Women's Studies." In *Indigenous American Women: Decolonization, Empowerment, Activism*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. Education **305.48897073 M54**

Razack, Sherene H. "Gendered Racial Violence and Spatialized Justice: The Murder of Pamela George." In *Race, Space and the Law: Unmapping a White Settler Society*. Ed. Sherene H. Razack. Toronto: Between the Lines, 2002. 121-56. **FC 104 R3185 2002 (Paterson Library)**

Smith, Andrea. "Rape and the War against Native Women." In *Reading Native American Women: Critical/Creative Representations*. Ed. Inés Hernández-Avila. Lanham, MD: AltaMira P, 2005, 63-76. **PS 153 I52R417 2005 (Paterson Library)**

Spears, Shandra. "Reconstructing the Colonizer: Self-representation by First Nations Artists." *Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal* Vol. 29.2 (2005). **HQ 1101 A88 (Paterson Periodicals) or online**

Van Kirk, Sylvia. "'Women in Between': Indian Women in Fur Trade Society in Western Canada." In *Readings in Canadian History. Pre-confederation. Fifth edition*. Ed. R. Douglas Francis & Donald B. Smith. p. 64-78. **(I have a copy or Pat: FC 164 R42 1998)**

Young, Alannah Earl & Denise Nadeau. "Decolonising the Body: Restoring Sacred Vitality." *Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal* Vol. 29.2 (Spring/Summer 2005): 13-22. **HQ 1101 A88 (Paterson Periodicals) or online**

Books on Reserve in Paterson Library: (2hour loans)

1. (Ad)ressing our words: aboriginal perspectives on aboriginal literatures/editor Armand Garnet Ruffo. **PR 9123 I3A32 2001**
2. American Indian grandmothers: traditions and transitions/edited by Marjorie M. Schweitzer **E 98 W8A54 1999**
3. Canadian Women: a history/ Alison Prentice [et al.] **HQ 1453 C356 1996**
4. Enough is enough: aboriginal women speak out/ Janet Silman **E 98 W8E66 1987**
5. Gender and history in Canada/ edited by Joy Parr and Mark Rosenfeld **HQ 1453 G43 1996**
6. Halfbreed/Maria Campbell **PR 9299.2 C189 Z5 1983**
7. I am woman: native perspective on sociology and feminism/by Lee Maracle

8. I walk in two worlds/Eleanor Brass **E96.5 B735 1987**
9. Indigenous American women: decolonization, empowerment, activism/Devon Abbott Mihesuah **305.48897073 M54**
10. Language in her eye: views on writing and gender by English Canadian writers/edited by Libby Scheier, Sarah Sheard, Eleanor Wachtel **PR 9188 L36 1990**
11. Looking white people in the eye: gender, race, and culture in courtrooms and classrooms/Sherene H. Razack **HQ 1233 R39 1998**
12. Race, space and the law: unmapping a white settler society/edited by Sherene H. Razack **FC 104 R3185 2002**
13. Rethinking Canada: the promise of women's history/edited by Veronica Strong-Boag, Anita Clair Fellman **HQ 1453 R48 1991**
14. Sifters: Native American women's lives/edited by Theda Perdue **E98 S454 2001**
15. Strong women stories: native wisdom and community survival/edited by Kim Anderson & Bonita Lawrence **E78 C2S815 2003**
16. Thunder in my soul: a Mohawk woman speaks/Patricia Monture-Angus **E78 C2M66 1995**
17. Women of the first nations: power, wisdom and strength/edited by Christine Miller and Patricia Churchryk and Maria Smallface Marule, Brenda Manyfingers and Cheryl Deering **E78 C2W85 1996**
18. Writing the circle: native women of Western Canada, an anthology/compiled and edited by Jeanne Perreault and Sylvia Vance; with a preface by Emma LaRocque. **PN 6069 I53W95 1990**