

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING

1310 - Method and Approaches Applied  
to Indigenous Learning

2016 Fall Session

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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 Thursday 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

Project is due **Thursday, September 29, 2016**. 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 **Thursday, November 17, 2016**. 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 5 - September 9

Lecture - Introduction

Workshop - Introduction

Week II - September 12 - September 16

Lecture - Resources and Resource Recognition

Workshop - Local Resources

Week III - September 19 - September 23

Lecture - Language

Workshop - The Use of Language

Week IV - September 26 - September 30

Lecture - The Spoken Word

Workshop - The Oral Tradition

Week V - October 3 - October 7

Lecture - The Story/Legend

Workshop - The Story/Legend

Week VI - October 10 - October 14

Lecture - The Non-Written Tradition

Workshop - The Non-Written Tradition

Week VII - October 17 - October 21

Lecture - Traditional Knowledge

Workshop - TEK

Week VIII - October 24 - October 28

Lecture - Material Culture

Workshop - Material Culture

Week IX - October 31- November 4

Lecture - Cultures in. Conflict

Workshop - What is Appropriate ?

Week X - November 7 - November 11

Lecture - A Scholarly Understanding

Workshop - Rethinking the Book

Week XI - November 14 - November 18

Lecture - Government Generated Resources

Workshop - Census Materials

Week XII - November 21 - November 25

Lecture - Media

Workshop - Reading the News

Week XIII - November 28 - December 2

Lecture - Review

Workshop - Shawn Wilson, Research in Ceremony

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  
Mining  
Truth and Reconciliation