

Course Syllabus - Political Science 3519 WDE Indigenous-Settler Political Relations

Instructor and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. D. West
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Course Description

This course is an examination of the unique political positions of Indigenous Peoples living in Canada with particular emphasis on the political, economic and social impact of these politics. Topics to be dealt with include: International Law and indigenous people, Indigenous identity in Canada, the nature of aboriginal title, the scope of aboriginal rights, land claim negotiations (specific and comprehensive land claims), self-government, constitutional developments, contemporary political and social issues.

The shape and purpose of the course is to encourage students to understand that the readings will be done first and the Powerpoints and the accompanying mini-lectures will provide interpretations of the readings. The Videos and Films in each Module are meant to reinforce the general subject of the Modules and will be useful for students when preparing their Research Paper, and notes for the Final Examination. The Profiles are meant to inspire, and to expand the students' understanding of the readings because they are all connected in a formal and informal way to the issues covered by the text.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Analyze complex theoretical text with regard to Aboriginal Peoples living in Canada.
- Synthesize legal issues pertaining to Aboriginal Peoples living in Canada.
- Enhance communication and comprehension skills by discussing, analysing and presenting information online.
- Discuss leadership and citizenship in Canada regarding Aboriginal-Canadian relations.
- Recognize the complexities of the legal, social, economic and political issues animating the negotiations between Aboriginal Peoples and Canada.

Required Text and Learning Materials

All readings are found in each Module on D2L

In addition to the textbook, a few readings are from electronic journals. Links to these articles are embedded within the applicable modules.

Grading

PARTICIPATION IN GROUP DISCUSSION.....20%
RESEARCH PAPER.....40% (March 1, 2018 at midnight) all papers sent to dwest@lakeheadu.ca
FINAL EXAMINATION..... 40% (TBA)

Participation

20% - Each student will be required to answer at least TWO of the Discussion Questions that are posted at the end of each Module's reading assignment overview. Responses should be approximately one long paragraph (6 -8 lines) and are to be posted to the appropriate Discussion forums no later than midnight on the day before the open discussion period for each Module. The open discussion periods will be used to answer questions, clarify content, and reflect on Module content and will be open for 24 hours.

Module	Discussion Question Responses Due	Question Period
One	January 20	January 21
Two	February 3	February 4
Three	February 17	February 18
Four	March 10	March 11
Five	March 24	March 25
Six	April 7	April 8

Research Paper (due February 28)

- Each student is responsible for completing a 5-7 page ([APA style](#), 12 point font) research paper that is cleared with the Instructor. Send your topic choice by email to the Instructor by **January 17th**. The Instructor expects students to use at least 10 sources for the completion of this paper. Plagiarism is not tolerated in this course and any papers that are received after the due date will be graded down by one mark out of 30 per day late.
- Read the university regulation on [plagiarism](#). [link will open in a new browser window]
- **Submit the research paper to dwest@lakeheadu.ca**

Final Examination (On-line - 2 hours)

The final examination will be based on the assigned readings for the entire course and will consist of two parts:

- Identifications - each will require a short 5 line paragraph
- Essay questions - there will be a choice of 2 out of 4

Course Schedule

The course is divided into 6 Modules which correspond to the required text. A Module will be released every two weeks and will also contain a PowerPoint and discussion questions that pertain to the Module. Modules will be released according to the following Schedule:

January 8 - Module 1 - Theorizing the Colonial Context

January 22 - Module 2 -

February 5 - Module 3 -

STUDY WEEK FEB. 19-23

February 26 - Module 4 -

March 12 - Module 5 -

March 26 - Module 6 -