

**COURSE OUTLINE - Fall 2025**

**NT1100(A2): Land-Based Learning - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dani Pierson      **PHONE:** 780-539-2889  
**OFFICE:** C303      **E-MAIL:** DPierson@nwpolytech.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday and Wednesday, 12 - 2 PM

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This introductory Indigenous Studies course is designed to introduce students to Indigenous worldviews and Indigenous Ways of Knowing through Indigenous teachings on the land. The course will emphasize learning and experiences away from campus and the representation of the diverse perspectives of Indigenous peoples in northwestern Alberta. Through learning experiences with Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Cultural Advisors, students will develop awareness of Indigenous Knowledge, culture, and ecological stewardship. Students are advised that some travel within the Grande Prairie region is required for this course.

**PREREQUISITE(S):**  
None

**COREQUISITE(S):**  
None

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**  
None; all required texts will be available on our myClass course page.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** On-Campus

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**  
By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- explain the relationship between land and identity within Indigenous societies.
- discuss and reflect on Indigenous knowledge systems and how they connect, relate, and apply to contemporary society.
- identify and explain the impacts of colonization and colonial systems on Indigenous Peoples both historically and today.
- discuss how Indigenous knowledge systems and the impact of colonization should inform their approach to their future careers.
- communicate their ideas both orally and in writing.

## TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>

\*\* For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

## EVALUATIONS:

Participation - 20%

Reading Annotations - 20% (*due before each class*)

Reflection Papers - 20% (*due September 17 and October 10*)

Final Project - 40% (*proposal 10% due October 3; project 30% due October 24*)

## GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

### Grading Chart

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59

B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week	Readings	Assignments
W1: Sept 2-5	Sept 3: Course Introductions	
W2: Sept 8-12	Sept 8: Introductions to protocol and ceremony Sept 10: Respect and cultural boundaries	
W3: Sept 15-19	Sept 15: Introduction to Land Based Learning Sept 17: Land Based Learning in Urban Spaces	Course Reflection #1 DUE Sept 17 at 5PM
W4: Sept 22-26	Sept 22: Land Based Resistance Sept 24: Land Based Healing	
W5: Sept 29-Oct 3	Sept 29: Medicines Oct 1: Culture as Medicine	Course Reflection #2 DUE Oct 3 at 5PM
W6: Oct 6-10	Oct 6: Transformative Justice Oct 8: Restorative Justice	Final project proposal DUE Oct 10 at 5PM
W7: Oct 13-17	Oct 13 <b>NO CLASS - Thanksgiving</b> Oct 15: Care work	
W8: Oct 20 - 24	Oct 20: Social Work and Reconciliation Oct 22 Final Project work period	Final project DUE Oct 24 at 5PM

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assigned readings and course content should be completed before attending class. Attendance at all classes is required and is necessary for student success in this course. Please notify the instructor immediately in case of illness or emergency.

If you are experiencing challenges in this course or facing barriers to completing readings and assignments, please contact your instructor immediately for assistance.

It is expected that students maintain a professional demeanor during class and in communications pertaining to the course.

Additionally, use of generative AI in lieu of completing written assignments is strictly prohibited and will result in an automatic fail in assignments.

## **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

1. Assignment descriptions will be discussed in class and will be available on the myClass page.
2. Some classes may take place at the on-campus Friendship Centre, outside, and in other spaces. Location changes will be communicated to you ahead of the class.