



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2019**

**AN2270 (A2): INDIGENOUS AND CULTURAL MINORITIES IN THE MODERN WORLD  
3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Instructor: Shawn Morton, PhD      Phone: 780-539-2847  
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Office hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, 1-2:15 p.m.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines the survival of indigenous and minority cultures in various societies. Anthropological perspectives on relationships among race, class, culture and politics, and on genocide, ethnocide and the future of native peoples in the modern state are studied.

**PREREQUISITE: A three-credit course in the social sciences**

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

All are available online. See Course Schedule / Tentative Outline below.  
Other readings may be added during the term.

**DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and discussion**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

We will study the physical, economic, social, political and ideological impacts of colonization and globalization, particularly on Indigenous peoples. For example:

Physical: warfare, contagious diseases, diabetes, coronary disease, famine, obesity, nutrition, activity, exercise, fertility, violence, suicide, substance abuse, environmental degradation, pollution, crowding, sexualization

Economic: cash economy, employment, wealth/poverty, inequality, expropriation of resources, expropriation of labor, welfare dependency, exploitation, loss of skill sets, deprivation of bush foods; privatized property destroying collective ownership, production and sharing; disintegration of production systems, cash crops displacing subsistence

Political: loss of autonomy, loss of authority and authorities, imposition of foreign legal systems, incarceration, no right to vote or participate in the political system, oppression

Social: gender and "race" inequality, loss of respect and caring, extended family breakdown, family violence, undermining of clan and moiety systems, privatized child-rearing, loss of community support and responsibility

Ideological: loss of language, local medical and environmental knowledge, healers, philosophy, value systems, arts, ceremonies, symbolic property, cultural treasures; effects of imposed religion and education

We will also study vigorous resurgence and decolonization. Processes include protest movements to halt environmentally-threatening economic activity; reclamation of land, treaty and Indigenous rights in general; reclamation of sovereignty and self-government; case decisions in state and international courts; the reinterpretation of treaties and agreements, calling into question the assumption that "might makes right"; the restatement of values and norms to support the egalitarian collective; research and revival of long-held ways of knowing; restoration of relationships with landscapes; celebrating and commemorating relationships between people, the natural and the supernatural realms.

We will be focusing on Indigenous peoples (with at least a mention of immigrant cultural minorities) in five different areas: Hawai'i, Haida Gwaii, Mesoamerica, the Highlands of South America, and New Zealand. While they share important similarities, each is unique.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to

- describe the experiences of Indigenous peoples in disparate areas of the world
- extract important information from texts, regarding factual knowledge about unfamiliar societies
- utilize anthropological approaches, concepts and terminology
- identify Indigenous intellectuals and activists, interpreting their vocabulary and their analysis
- describe important social, physical, emotional, political and economic factors in the lives of indigenous communities
- identify (or at least argue for) which factors are the most important
- compare and contrast the experience of these communities
- explain what causes the similarities and differences between them.

## TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, CUC, KUC

**\*Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

**\*\* 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:

Assessment	Weight
Video Viewings (2)	40
Discussion Lead (1)	10
Research Paper Prep (1)	20
Final Exam / Research Paper (1)	30
TOTAL	100
Extra Credit for up to 10 points	10

### **VV – Video Viewings (2 video viewing assignments at 20 points each for 40 points total)**

This semester you will complete two video viewings concerning important topics in our class. For these assignments, after reviewing the film, you will reflect on several associated questions (provided). You are expected to write at minimum between 300-500 words (one page, single-spaced). These entries are meant for you to express your thoughts and ideas about topics we have covered in class. **I expect them to be thoughtful.** Be sure you use proper grammar and sentence structure. No point form. Do not simply “vomit words” onto the page, instead, invest energy in thinking about the question(s) asked, then thoroughly discuss how you understood the concept(s). **Video Viewings are to be completed on our Moodle page, and will open Mondays at 8 am and close Sundays at 11:59 pm.**

### **Discussion Lead (10 points total)**

This course is structured by lectures, films, and discussion based on a series of readings that will be assigned by the instructor. Each unit consists of two weeks of content, the second of which will take the form of a structured discussion. The instructor (Shawn) will lead discussion on the first of these discussions. **You will lead discussion on the second (sign up for specific weeks during the first week). This is a low stakes assignment, intended to get you comfortable expressing your thoughts in a group context.**

### **Research Paper Prep (20 points total)**

In preparation for your final paper / exam, and to get you thinking about this in advance, I would like you to turn in a brief outline and preliminary bibliography. The more preparation you do at this point, the easier things will be at the end of the semester. **Your outline and bibliography will open as scheduled on Monday at 8 am and close Sunday at 11:59 pm. Make-up exams may be given at the instructor’s discretion.**

### **Final Exam / Research Paper (30 points total)**

You will have a scheduled final exam in this class. Cleverly, this exam is actually the research paper that you've been prepping all semester! **Your Final Exam / Research Paper is to be completed in advance and a hard copy turned in with your name clearly indicated on the day of our scheduled final.**

**Extra Credit (up to 10 points)**

Extra credit is as stated, extra points above and beyond your regular class assignments. These points are somewhat easy to acquire, but in order to receive any point you must do exactly as asked. One sure fire way to receive extra credit is by **coming to my office hours for a chat** (worth 2.5 points; one time only). Other opportunities will be announced throughout the semester.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

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

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	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	Date	Topic(s)	Reading(s)
<b>Unit 1: Introduction to Course and Anthropology</b>			
1	Sep. 4	Introduction to Course	
1	Sep. 6	What is Anthropology?	
2	Sep. 11	Parameters of our Course	
2	Sep. 13	Approaches in Socio-Cultural Anthropology	
Homework: VV1 - Due Sunday 11:59 pm			
<b>Unit 2: Haida Gwaii</b>			
3	Sep. 18	Regional and Historical Context	
3	Sep. 20	Film	
4	Sep. 25	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
4	Sep. 27	Student Led Discussion	TBA
<b>Unit 3: Hawaii</b>			
5	Oct. 2	Regional and Historical Context	
5	Oct. 4	Film	
6	Oct. 9	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
6	Oct. 11	Student Led Discussion	TBA
<b>Unit 4: Highland South America</b>			
7	Oct. 16	Regional and Historical Context	
7	Oct. 18	Film	
8	Oct. 23	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
8	Oct. 25	Student Led Discussion	TBA
Homework: RPP - Due Sunday 11:59 pm			
<b>Unit 5: New Zealand</b>			
9	Oct. 30	Regional and Historical Context	
9	Nov. 1	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
10	Nov. 6	Student Led Discussion	TBA
10	Nov. 8	Fall Break - No Classes	
Homework: VV2 - Due Sunday 11:59 pm			
<b>Unit 6: Mesoamerica</b>			
11	Nov. 13	Regional and Historical Context	
11	Nov. 15	Film	
12	Nov. 20	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
12	Nov. 22	Student Led Discussion	TBA
<b>Unit 7: Colonization and Globalization</b>			
13	Nov. 27	Regional and Historical Context	
13	Nov. 29	Film	
14	Dec. 4	Instructor Led Discussion	TBA
14	Dec. 6	Student Led Discussion	TBA
Check Online for Final Exam Schedule			

VV = Video Viewing; DL = Discussion Lead; RPP = Research Paper Prep

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

### STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=68>).

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>