



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – ANTHROPOLOGY 2460**

**Circumpolar Ethnography – FALL 2012, MW 10:00-11:20A**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Scott Johnson      **PHONE:** 780-539-2830  
**OFFICE:** C215      **E-MAIL:** sjohnson2@gprc.ab.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:** 11:30-12:30p, Monday and Wednesday

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** A three-credit course in social science is required.

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

*Endangered Peoples of the Arctic: Struggles to Survive and Thrive* (2000; Book)  
*The Reindeer People: Living with Animals and Spirits in Siberia* (2005; Book)  
*The Sámi People: Traditions in Transition* (2004; Book)  
*Critical Inuit Studies: An Anthology of Contemporary Arctic Ethnography* (2006; Book)

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** The primary aim of this course is to introduce the peoples and cultures of the North Circumpolar Region through an ethnographic and anthropological study of the traditional cultures and contemporary peoples of the Circumpolar North. The focus will be on the comparative study of indigenous Arctic and sub-Arctic societies. It will examine both the archaeological and ethnological considerations of northern societies of the Old and New Worlds.

**CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:** 3 / 3

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

**OBJECTIVES:** Students should grasp concepts related to the first peopling of arctic regions and general regional adaptations, as well as specific regional cultures in North America, Scandinavia, and Siberia.

**TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU**

**\*\* 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**

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

<b>GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE</b>			
<b>GRADING CONVERSION CHART</b>			
<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4-point Equivalent</b>	<b>Percentage Guidelines</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>85 – 89</b>	
<b>A<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>80 – 84</b>	<b>FIRST CLASS STANDING</b>
<b>B<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>77 – 79</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>73 – 76</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>B<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>70 – 72</b>	
<b>C<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>67 – 69</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>63 – 66</b>	
<b>C<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>60 – 62</b>	
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>55 – 59</b>	<b>MINIMAL PASS</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>50 – 54</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0 – 49</b>	<b>FAIL</b>
<b>WF</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline</b>

## **EVALUATIONS:**

<b>Wikipedia Project</b>	<b>13 percent</b>
<b>In-Class Tests</b>	<b>32 percent (18 percent x 2 exams)</b>
<b>Take-Home Test</b>	<b>20 percent</b>
<b>Current Events</b>	<b>15 percent (5 percent x 3 present.)</b>
<b>Debate</b>	<b>10 percent</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<b>10 percent</b>

**Percents/points are awarded for work described above. Points can be awarded in fractions. Visit or email me at any time to get your current point total.**

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

***Exams*** There will be three exams in this class. The first (I) will cover human adaptation and colonization of polar environments. The second exam (II) will be a take-home examination. The final exam (III) will cover the regional cultures of the arctic. I will provide you with a study guide prior to each test.

***Projects*** There will be two small projects for this class. The first will challenge you to fact-check a Wikipedia entry. The second project will be the presentation of current events related to this topic. A handout will be given for each of these projects.

***Debate*** A debate will be held where questions will be addressed to representatives of arctic cultures, similar to an arctic model-U.N.

## **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/)\*

### Section 1: Circumpolar Introduction (September 10 – October 1):

<i>Introduction (Sept. 10)</i>	EP: Intro	Go over syllabus (Sept. 10)
<i>Regions (Sept. 12)</i>	PDF 1-5	
<i>Library Introduction (Sept. 17)</i>		
<i>Early Arctic Inhabitants (Sept. 19)</i>	PDF 6-7	
<i>Arctic Adaptations (Sept. 24-26)</i>	PDF 8	

**Test I (Oct. 1)**

### Section 2: Siberia (October 3 – October 22):

<i>Siberia and Its People (Oct. 3)</i>	EP: 2, 4; RP: 1, 2	
<i>Reindeer Herding (Oct. 10)</i>	RP: 3 - 6	
<b>Thanksgiving: No Class (Oct. 8)</b>	-	
<i>Hunting &amp; Modernity (Oct. 10)</i>	RP: Interlude, 7 - 10	Wikipedia Project Due (Oct. 10)
<i>Spirituality and Beliefs (Oct. 17)</i>	RP: 11-15	
<i>Eveny Today (Oct. 22)</i>	RP: Epilogue	1st presentation (≤Oct. 22)

### Section 3: North America (October 24 – November 19):

<i>N. American Methods (Oct. 24)</i>	CIS:I - 5	
<i>Inuit Culture (Oct. 29)</i>	CIS: 6 - 10	
<i>Inuit &amp; Their Landscape (Oct. 31)</i>	CIS: 11-15	
<i>Greenland (Nov. 5)</i>	EP: 7, 9, 10	
<i>Eastern Canada (Nov. 7)</i>	EP: 3, 5	2nd presentation (≤Nov. 7)
<b>Fall Break: No Class (Nov. 9-13)</b>	-	
<i>Western Canada (Nov. 14)</i>	EP: 6, 11	
<i>Alaska (Nov. 19)</i>	EP: 1, 8, 14	

### Section 4: Scandinavia (November 21– December 10):

<i>Scandinavia and Its People (Nov. 21)</i>	EP: 12, 13; SP: Intro	
<i>Saami Groups (Nov. 26)</i>	SP: 1	
<i>Earlier Saami History (Nov. 28)</i>	SP: 2	
<i>Later Saami History (Dec. 3)</i>	SP: 3	Debate II (Dec. 3)
<i>Saami Art (Dec. 5)</i>	SP: 4, 5	3rd presentation (≤Dec. 5)

**Test II (Dec. 10)**

**Test III (Dec. 17)**

EP:	<i>Endangered Peoples of the Arctic: Struggles to Survive and Thrive</i>
RP:	<i>The Reindeer People: Living with Animals and Spirits in Siberia</i>
SP:	<i>The Sámi People: Traditions in Transition</i>
CIS:	<i>Critical Inuit Studies: An Anthology of Contemporary Arctic Ethnography</i>
PDF:	Readings on Moodle

**Policies:**

*Honor & Plagiarism* All students are bound by the honor code as outlined at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/downloads/documents/Student%20Misconduct%20Plagiarism%20and%20Cheating.pdf>. This includes prohibitions against cheating, plagiarism, or alteration of documents. Furthermore, disruption of classes, theft, abuse, harassment, improper or illegal use of substances, or firearm possession will not be tolerated. Please direct any questions to me, the department chair, or dean.

*Disability* Students with disabilities should work through the Disability Access Office, <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/students/disabilities/index.html>. Please make me aware of any specific needs well in advance of tests or homework that would be affected.

*Disruptive Behaviour* Disruptive behaviour including harassment will not be tolerated. I refer you to <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/downloads/documents/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.pdf> (responsibility no. 14). If you feel you have been discriminated against or harassed in any way, please let me know immediately. If you are uncomfortable talking to me, I would be happy to help you find somebody else to whom you may speak.

*Phone & E-Mail* Please turn off your phone during class. Phones on silent or vibrate can still cause distraction. I promptly answer emails Monday-Friday, 8:00a-4:00p. Please plan accordingly.

*Make-up Exam* Make-up exams will not be given. Tests are given as per the schedule set out on the syllabus, please make your plans accordingly. Please contact me well in advance if there are conflicts in your schedule (i.e., not the day or night before the test).

*Attendance* Class attendance is your responsibility. We will be covering material not in the book, which will appear on the test. If you will be missing a class, I do appreciate an email to let me know. Please arrange to get the notes you missed from a fellow student.