

*Registrar*

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ANTHROPOLOGY 327

INDIGENOUS AND CULTURAL MINORITIES IN THE MODERN WORLD

Fall 1991

Instructor: Laurie Nock

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Over the last five centuries, many peoples of the world have been reduced to indigenous minorities in their homelands, experiencing colonization, population decimation, compulsory labor, the loss of land and other vital resources, missionization, miscegenation, etc. Those who escaped the initial onslaught now find their homelands invaded by urban refugees and threatened by ever more efficient means of exploiting natural resources and environmental devastation. Alternatively, they are forced into urban migration. Increasing penetration of a cash economy, wage employment, modern education and national administrative structures have undermined political and economic autonomy, and the bases of aboriginal culture. Nevertheless, some indigenous peoples are exploring strategies to combat the loss of their traditional ways through cultural revitalization, political mobilization and/or escape.

Course lectures will be devoted to studying significant themes regarding the impact of the modern world on indigenous societies, using examples from many areas of the world, pointing out differences and similarities. Students will provide specific ethnographic examples by studying particular areas in depth, and presenting their findings to the class.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

There will be two take-home tests, one approximately half-way through the term, and the other at the end. These will be based on all course materials, including student presentations. The questions to be answered are designed to encourage students to integrate the concepts and case studies presented in class, and answers should be approximately ten double-spaced pages in length.

Student presentations on the area which they have researched are to be fifteen minutes in length. An expanded version of this presentation is to be submitted as an essay, fifteen to twenty pages in length, and should incorporate suggestions which may arise from the oral presentation.

Assignments must be handed in to the instructor in class on the day they are due. Unauthorized tardiness may result in the loss of 2 out of 5 points. Excessive grammatical or spelling errors may have the same result. Decisions regarding make-up tests will be at the instructor's discretion.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Mid-term take-home	25%	October 25 (approx.)
Presentation	25%	Starting November 15
Essay	25%	December 6 (approx.)
Final take-home	25%	December 13 (approx.)

#### Grading System

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Interpretation</u>
9	Excellent
8	
7	Good
6	
5	Pass
4	
3	Fail
2	
1	

#### TEXT

Burger, Julian, REPORT FROM THE FRONTIER: THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES. Cambridge, Mass.: Zed Books/Cultural Survival, 1987.