

the format, topics, and expectations will be provided in class. These presentations are not designed to intimidate students in any way, but rather to give you an opportunity to contribute your own interests and perspectives, and to allow us all to learn from one another. A significant proportion of your grade in the course will be from participation. Because this is a small seminar, attendance and contribution to discussion are absolutely essential to the success of the class. I am aware however, that some students find speaking in public very difficult. No student will be expected to step out of his/her own comfort level. If you attend class, do your best with all the readings, and hand in all your assignments, your participation mark should boost your overall grade rather than hinder it. You are expected to attend regularly and are responsible for obtaining all information and handouts missed. The final exam will be comprehensive, meaning it will cover all the material we have covered in class, but will not include any of the optional readings. The exam will occur during the scheduled exam period.

Other Course Details:

You may notice that there are many materials on your outline that are listed as optional. I have tried to place these texts at various points in the semester where I think they could be useful for helping you to understand the ideas we are working with. I do understand however that the reading load for this course is quite dense, and so I do not expect you to read all the works. You may use any of the works included in the coursepack for your essays, presentation, and even on the final, but you will not be required to use these texts. They are meant to act as resources and to help provide a broader perspective on what we are covering.

Policy Regarding Submission of Assignments & Late Penalties:

All assignments are due at the beginning of the designated lecture (i.e. work submitted later the same day will be considered one day late). Except in cases where there are appropriately documented medical or compassionate reasons, work submitted late will be penalized 3% per day (including weekends), and will not be accepted more than 10 days after the due date. If you miss an exam without appropriately documented medical or compassionate reasons, you will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. In the case of late submission, it is your responsibility to arrange to get the assignment to me in person.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement:

When you are unable to meet a course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise me in writing, with your name, id# and e-mail contact. Where possible, this should be done in advance of the missed work. Extensions will not be granted less than twenty-four hours before the due date of an assignment, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

****Please feel free to come see me in my office or contact me by email whenever you have questions, concerns, or would like extra help. My role is to give you the best possible learning experience, and to do whatever I can to create a positive and productive learning environment. Welcome, and I look forward to the semester ahead!***

Statement on Plagiarism:

Calendar Policy Statement, see calendar pages 39-40

The College expects intellectual honesty from its students. Intellectual honesty demands that the contribution of others be acknowledged. To do less is to cheat. Intellectual dishonesty undermines the quality of academic activity and accordingly, the College has adopted appropriate penalties for student misconduct with respect to plagiarism and cheating. Penalties are levied according to the degree of the infraction. Students who are unsure whether a particular course of action might constitute plagiarism are advised to consult with the instructor. The Instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Diagnostic 5% (1-2 pages) **Due Sept.22**

Essay One 15% (6-8 pages) **Due Oct. 25**

Presentation 15% (no more than 15 minutes) **Nov. 17 in class**

Essay Two 30% (10-12 pages)

~First Draft **Due Nov. 3**

~Final Draft **Due Dec. 1**

Participation (including attendance and contribution to class) 10%

Final Exam 20% Comprehensive

All assignments will be marked according to the ALPHA Grading System

Alpha Grade	4-Point Equivalence	Percentage	Descriptor
A+	4.0	90-100	Excellent
A	4.0	85-89	Excellent
A-	3.7	80-84	Very Good (first class standing)
B+	3.3	76-79	Very Good (first class standing)
B	3.0	73-75	Good
B-	2.7	70-72	Good
C+	2.3	67-69	Satisfactory
C	2.0	64-66	Satisfactory
C-	1.7	60-63	Satisfactory
D+	1.3	55-59	Poor
D	1.0	50-54	Minimal Pass
F	0.0	0-49	Failure

Description of Assignments:

Your first assignment will be a short response on the texts, themes and issues we have begun studying. This is an exercise for me to see your writing and analytical experience, and for you to see my marking and evaluation style. You will have two essay assignments in the course. The first essay will be a short analytical paper on any of the works on the syllabus to that point. General topics will be assigned but you will be asked to focus your topic and to choose your own texts. For the second essay, you may write on any text on the syllabus, excluding a text you have already written on. You will be required to submit a one page proposal presenting your self-devised topic and possible references. I would like you to have at least two outside sources for your second essay. You may use optional material from the coursepack as reference material. You will also be asked to submit a draft which will be edited by your peers in class. The peer-editing process and the proposal will be a part of the final mark for your second essay. Towards the end of the semester, every student will be asked to do a presentation in class. These presentations will all occur on November 17th, as a student “symposium”. More information on

Week Four:

Appropriation of Voice

Sept. 27- Trinh T. Minh-Ha “The Language of Nativism: Anthropology as a Scientific Conversation of Man with Man” (CP)

Cotrelle, Sanford “The Importance of Language” (**optional**) (CP)

Drama- Staging Identity and Resistance

Sept. 39-Highway, Tomson *The Rez Sisters*

Week Five:

Oct. 4- *The Rez Sisters*

Oct. 6- **Essay One Due**
The Rez Sisters

Week Six:

Colonialism/Postcolonialism

Oct. 11- Thanksgiving Day- No Classes

Oct.13- Barton, Willow “Where Have The Warriors Gone?” (CP)

Robinson, Harry “Captive in an English Circus” (CP)

Week Seven:

Oct.18- Mosionier, Beatrice Culleton *In Search of April Raintree*

Oct. 20- *In Search of April Raintree*

Week Eight:

Oct. 25- **Proposal for Essay Two Due**
In Search of April Raintree

Activism/Political Issues

Oct. 27- King, Thomas “What is it About Us That You Don’t Like?” (CP)

LaRocque, Emma “Here Are Our Voices-Who Will Hear?” (**optional**) (CP)

Week Nine:

Nov. 1- Sainte-Marie, Buffy “*Universal Soldier*” “*My Country ‘Tis of Thy People You’re Dying*” “*Now That the Buffalo’s Gone*” Please also view the

following website:

<<http://www.cradleboard.org/main.html>>.

Nov. 3- **First Draft Essay Two Due**
Peer Editing and Writing Workshop

Week Ten:

Nov. 8- Erdrich, Louise *Love Medicine*

Nov.10- *Love Medicine*

Week Eleven:

Nov. 15- *Love Medicine*

Art and Culture as Texts:

Contemporary Issues/Representations

Nov. 17- Student Presentations

Week Twelve:

Humor

Nov. 22- Possible Continuation of Presentations

King, Thomas *Green Grass, Running Water*

Nov. 24- *Green Grass, Running Water*

Week Thirteen

Nov. 29- *Green Grass, Running Water*

Dec. 1- **Essay Two Due**

Green Grass, Running Water

Week Fourteen

Dec. 6: Concluding Ideas

LaValley, Barbara “Final Chapter” (**optional**) (CP)

Dec. 8: Review for Final

Additional Optional Texts in Coursepack:

Cayuga, Cat “Turtledream”

Cuthand, Beth “Zen Indian”

Groulx, Alfred “Savage Man”

Ireland-Noganosh “Man-made Disease”

LaValley, Barbara “Trees”

Moses, Bev “Sell”

Final Exam (in scheduled exam session)

Department of Arts, Commerce and Education
Grande Prairie Regional College
English 3080: Native/Aboriginal Literature in Canada
Section A2 Monday, Wednesday 10:00-11:20
Fall 2004

Instructor: H. Davidson

Office Hours: Monday 1:30-3:30

Thursday 10:00-11:00

or by appointment

Office: C209

Phone Number: 539-2988

E-mail: hdavidson@gprc.ab.ca

Required Texts & Resources:

King, Thomas and Monkman, William
Kent. *A Coyote Columbus Story*.

King, Thomas. *Green Grass Running*
Water.

Erdrich, Louise. *Love Medicine*.

Highway, Tomson. *The Rez Sisters*.

Mosionier, Beatrice Culleton. *In Search*
of April Raintree.

Coursepack.

Calendar Description: A study of Canadian Native literature and the Aboriginal influence within Canadian and Northern culture. This includes Native mythology, realism, protest, and humor in a variety of genres. The course examines Aboriginal history, culture, philosophy, and modern conflicts as reflected in the creative literature addressing these subjects.

Prerequisites: EN 1000 or EN 1010, or equivalent

Content Description: In this course we will consider Aboriginal literature, art, and political writings from multiple literary perspectives. We will examine Aboriginal texts through topics of identity politics, postcolonialism, literary activism, historical rewritings, and humor. We will also question the effects of outside cultural and societal perceptions upon Aboriginal identities, and will look at the ways literature involves or reacts to those perceptions.

Course Schedule

Week One:

Sept. 8-Introduction

Redwolf, David "Traditional

Spirituality, Philosophy And Values"

(**optional**) (CP)

Week Two:

History and Re-History

Sept. 13- Armstrong, Jeannette "History
Lesson" Coursepack (CP)

Moses and Goldie "Preface To The First
Edition: Two Voices" (**optional**) (CP)

Sept.15-Brant, Beth "This is History"
(CP)

King and Monkman *A Coyote Columbus*
Story

Week Three:

Representations of Otherness and
"The Imaginary Indian"

Sept. 20-Grey Owl "Indian Ways" (CP)

Ruffo, Armand Garnet "Grey Owl: The
Mystery of Archie Belaney" (CP)

Sept. 22- **Diagnostic Assignment Due**

Johnson, Pauline "Corn Husker" and
"The Song my Paddle Sings" (CP)