



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2015

NT 2300 (A2): Introduction to Aboriginal Governance – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Kirsten Mikkelsen **PHONE:** 780-539-2889
OFFICE: C-303 **E-MAIL:** KMikkelsen@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 3:30-6:30 & Thursday 1-4:30 or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Alfred, T. (1999). *Peace, Power, Righteousness: An Indigenous Manifesto* (2nd ed.). Don Mills, Ont: Oxford University Press.

And

McAdam, S. (2015). *Nationhood Interrupted: Revitalizing Nehiyaw Legal Systems*. Saskatoon, SK: Purich Publishing Ltd.

VIDEO AVAILABLE ONLINE:

American Indian Studies, University of Arizona. (2014, April 16). Jeff Corntassel Sustainable Self-Determination: Re-envisioning Indigenous Governance, Leadership and Resurgence [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://nnidatabase.org/video/jeff-corntassel-sustainable-self-determination-re-envisioning-indigenous-governance-leadership>

INCA Online. (2012). Series of Teachings with Cree Knowledge Keeper Sylvia McAdam. [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://vimeo.com/channels/301066/videos>

SFU Woodward & UBC First Nations Studies Program. (2014, Oct 22). Panel Discussion Red Skins, White Masks: Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://www.sfu.ca/sfuwoodwards/events/events1/2014-2015-fall/GlenCoulthardRedSkinWhiteMask.html>

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces key aspects of Aboriginal governance in Canada and will provide a basic understanding of the complex array of historical, national, provincial and local factors which may influence governance context, structures and processes in Aboriginal communities and organizations.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): Circles, Discussions, Lectures, Videos, Non-classroom based engagement & Required Moodle site.

OBJECTIVES:

- Examine required readings and videos to expand insights and challenge perspectives on contemporary Indigenous political relationships and organizations
- Recognize various provincial and national organizations that represent Indigenous peoples
- Identify complex array of factors that influence governance contexts of Indigenous nations and representative organizations
- Apply critical analysis of the impact of colonialism on Indigenous leadership, communities and organizations
- Demonstrates critical thinking through comparison of key concepts in Indigenous governance such as: nationhood, self-determination, sustainable self-determination, self-conscious traditionalism, leadership, sovereignty, self-government, assimilation, co-optation
- Identify Indigenous responses to colonial domination through movements for sustaining self-determination and regeneration of ceremonial life
- Distinguish Indigenous political traditions and teachings to re-envisioning Indigenous nationhood and organization governance

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Recall & provide analysis of Indigenous governance concepts
- Ability to identify impact of colonialism on Indigenous leadership, communities, and organizations and movements for re-envisioning Indigenous governance
- Demonstrate emerging understanding of current issues affecting Indigenous peoples and governance through assignments that reflect contemporary perspectives in Native Studies
- Design an Indigenous Governance project that centers Indigenous teachings
- Apply knowledge of Indigenous scholars teachings and ceremonial life in revitalizing Indigenous nationhood and community organizations

TRANSFERABILITY: University of Alberta only

** 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:

Please note that Universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**. This means **DO NOT GET LESS THAN “C-” IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO TRANSFER TO UNIVERSITY.**

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	66-69
A	4.0	90-94		C	2.0	63-65
A-	3.7	85-89		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	80-84		D+	1.3	54-59
B	3.0	75-79		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-74		F	0.0	00-49

EVALUATIONS:

Virtual Organization Tour Paper	30% Due Sept 17
Reading Review	30% Due Oct 13
Indigenous Governance Quiz	10% Due Nov 3
Indigenous Governance Final Project	30% Due the week that final exams are scheduled

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

The assigned readings and exercises for each class should be completed before attending that class, except for the first class. Attendance at all sessions is required and is critical to the student's success in the course. In case of illness or emergency, notify the instructor as soon as possible. If you find yourself having difficulty in this course, please contact the instructor immediately for assistance. If you simply want more discussion with the instructor about any aspect of the course, please visit my office during office hours or at a more convenient pre-arranged time.

It is expected that all students will display a professional attitude and behaviour in the classroom. This includes reliability, respect for and cooperation with your fellow students and the instructor, attention to fellow student questions and instructor's response, determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines, and constructive response to criticism.

Also, please ensure that you are familiar with using Moodle:

GPRC Moodle go to: <https://moodle.gprc.ab.ca/my/>

Native Studies 2300 title in Moodle is: NT2300_A2_F15

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

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 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/**

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

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1	R: Course Outline Review & Intro to Moodle Site with Glossary	
Week 2	<p>The first section of reading that follows is within text <i>Peace, Power, Righteousness: An Indigenous Manifesto</i> (2nd ed.).</p> <p>T: Thanksgiving, Preface to the Second Edition, First Words, & A Note on Terminology by T. Alfred (to p. 23)</p> <p>R: Peace, Native American Political Traditions by T. Alfred (to p. 54)</p>	
Week 3	<p>T: Native Political Elites by T. Alfred (to p. 64)</p> <p>R: Power, The Abuse of Power, Re-empowerment by T. Alfred (to p. 78)</p>	
Week 4	<p>T: Virtual Governance Tour Sites</p> <p>R: Class Discussion: no reading, bring your paper to class to inform discussion of themes in text to virtual governance tour</p>	<p>T: Meet in Library</p> <p>R: Virtual Governance Tour Paper Due Sept 17</p>
Week 5	<p>T: Sovereignty: An Inappropriate Concept by T. Alfred (to p. 93)</p> <p>R: Video Jeff Corntassel Sustainable Self-Determination-Re-envisioning Indigenous Governance, Leadership and Resurgence (in class)</p>	
Week 6	<p>Towards Sustainable Self Determination: Rethinking the Contemporary Indigenous Rights Discourse by J. Corntassel. Retrieve from, http://www.corntassel.net/Sustainable.pdf</p>	

	pp. 105-121 for T & pp. 121-128 for R	
Week 7	<p>T: Practicing Sustainable Self Determination: Indigenous Approaches to Cultural Restoration & Revitalization by J. Corntassel & C. Bryce. Retrieve from, http://www.corntassel.net/sustainable_selfdetermination.pdf</p> <p>R: Colonial Mentalities, Co-optation by T. Alfred (to p.103)</p>	T: Reading Review Paper due Oct 13
Week 8	<p>T. Self-Conscious Traditionalism, Leadership, Responsibility by T. Alfred (to p. 119)</p> <p>R: Video: Panel Discussion Red Skins, White Masks- Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition (part watched in class)</p>	
Week 9	<p>T: Righteousness, Money by T. Alfred (to p. 144)</p> <p>R: Modern Treaties: A Path to Assimilation? by T. Alfred (to p. 154)</p>	
Week 10	<p>T: For the Youth: Toward a New Native Leadership by T. Alfred (to p. 181) Marks the completion of this text.</p> <p>R: Video: Review 2 clips of Sylvia McAdams before class https://vimeo.com/channels/301066/videos</p> <p>Forward, Preface, Acknowledgements, Disclaimer by Sylvia McAdam in text: Nationhood Interrupted: Revitalizing nehiyaw Legal Systems.</p>	T: Quiz
Week 11	<p>T: tawaw niwahkowmakanak, Introduction: ahaw...pihtokwek by S. McAdam (to p. 26)</p> <p>R: Soulflame by S. McAdam (to p.36)</p>	
Week 12	<p>T: manitow wiyinikewina by S. McAdam (to p. 63)</p> <p>R: The Promised Land by S. McAdam (to p. 77)</p>	
Week 13	<p>T: Bring your Indigenous Governance Final Project that is in progress to discuss.</p> <p>Rebuilding Indigenous Nationhood & Idle No More by S. McAdam (to p. 96)</p>	

	R: Closing Reflections	
Week 14		Indigenous Governance Final Project due on date of final exam (in lieu of final exam-but do on the scheduled date) Final Exams dates are Scheduled by the Registrar Office

***Please Note:** From time to time we may need to shift the course schedule.

Additional Information

1. Class is encouraged to participate in GPRC Friendship center events and ceremonies that also happen outside of our scheduled Tuesday and Thursday Classes. As these are made known to me by the GPRC Indigenous Liaison I will give you information in class and post in our NT 23000 Moodle site.
2. Some of our classes –approximately 2 in the semester may happen at the GPRC Friendship Center. We will meet in our scheduled class on each occasion and go to the GPRC Friendship Center together.
2. The nature and topics of your assignments will discussed in class
3. It is your responsibility to read each and every chapter and assigned reading (if any) and attend all classes.
4. Lectures and learning activities will not always cover material in your chapters. Lectures may cover topics and include materials that are not covered by your textbook. It is therefore imperative that you attend every class.
5. It is expected that students will display a professional attitude and behaviour. These attitudes and behaviours are many and will be discussed in class. Any violation or misconduct may result in dismissal from the class. Furthermore, this course includes participatory in Indigenous learning events and possible ceremonies. If at any time you are uncertain, need more information, please do not hesitate to connect with me in person or schedule a time over the phone. Supplies to create final Indigenous governance project are the responsibility of the student. Discuss the various options to demonstrate learning for this project with me if you are uncertain.
6. Talk to me if you have concerns or you are experiencing difficulties that may have negative impact on your academic performance.