

The University of Western Ontario
2016 - 2017

FNS 1020E: Introduction to First Nations Studies

Lecture: Tuesdays 130-330 pm - Room: P&AB 148

**Tutorials: Wednesdays, 1030-1130, UCC 60
Fridays, 1030-1130**

	Prof. Susan Hill	TA Jennifer Elgie	TA Stephanie Anderson
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Course Description:

A survey of Canadian First Nations issues from academic, literary, artistic, and community perspectives. A number of themes are drawn on in this course, including Indigenous knowledge, cultural traditions, contemporary issues, historical background, oral history, socio-political contexts, arts, language and environment.

Course Learning Objectives and Goals:

Introduction to First Nations Studies will offer a comprehensive survey of knowledge and information on contemporary First Nations peoples of Canada. The overall objective is two-fold:

1. To provide a broad knowledge set that will assist students to critically engage with issues affecting First Nations people. This knowledge set will focus special attention on the cultural, social, political, and epistemological understandings of historic and contemporary events involving First Nations people.
2. To assist students in the development of interdisciplinary research skills. As the course progresses, students will work with university research staff and will be exposed to community-based researchers, all with the aim of developing research skills related to addressing issues of historical, social, political, environmental and cultural relevance to First Nations people.

The learning objectives of this course encourage the development of a broad knowledge base and a culture of meaningful research. Additional learning objectives seek to provide students with a knowledge-set that is specific to pursuing an academic path in First Nations Studies, and will emphasize:

- Indigenous voices: Introduce students to current Indigenous scholarship, cultural experts, Elders, and researchers.
- Interdisciplinary approaches to learning: Students will be exposed to a range of subjects and perspectives bridging disciplinary boundaries.
- Indigenous Pedagogical Approach: The course includes a range of assignments that will provide students with the required university level skills in writing, but is framed within the context of privileging, protecting, preserving Indigenous knowledge systems.

Course Prerequisites:

No prerequisites. 2 lecture hours, 1 tutorial hour, 1.0 course.

Required Readings:

The required readings for this course include one textbook and a collection of short stories that can be purchased at The Bookstore at Western (<http://www.bookstore.uwo.ca/>).

Belanger, Yale. *Ways of Knowing: An Introduction to Native Studies in Canada*. Nelson Education Ltd., Second Edition, 2014. ISBN: 978-0-17-650863-0

King, Thomas. *The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America*. Anchor Canada, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-385-66422-6

Other readings as assigned (distributed via internet link and/or via OWL)

ASSIGNMENTS & EVALUATION

Your attendance and participation is critical to your success in this course. It is requested that you notify the professor prior to class if you are unable to attend. Assignments will be considered late if the student is absent on the due date without making prior arrangements; late assignments will lose 5 points per day. The grading breakdown follows (more detailed descriptions of assignments to be distributed in class and via OWL):

Value	Assignment
15%	Participation/Questions; <i>via tutorial</i>
5%	Tutorial Presentation; <i>sign up in tutorial</i>
5%	Book Reflection (Inconvenient Indian); <i>Due October 25</i>
5%	Letter to the Editor; <i>Due December 6</i>
10%	Mid-Year Test; <i>During December exam period</i>
8%	Museum Exhibit Plan; <i>Due Nov. 1</i>
12%	Museum Exhibit Project; <i>Due March 21</i>
10%	Research Essay; <i>February 28</i>
30%	Final Examination; <i>During April exam period</i>

All assignments will have descriptions provided to the students no less than three weeks prior to the due date. These descriptions will be posted on OWL for student access. Students are encouraged to direct questions regarding the assignments to the instructor and/or teaching assistants in a timely fashion. Students are encouraged to bring questions to office hours. Questions sent electronically will be answered within 2 working days of message receipt (i.e., an emailed question received Friday at 6 pm will receive an answer by Weds. at 9 am).

FNS 1020E: TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	READINGS (to be read before lecture)
Sept. 13	Introduction: What is First Nations Studies	
Sept. 20	Indigenous Thought & Philosophy/Indigenous Knowledge	Belanger: Preface & Chapter 1
Sept. 27	Museums as a Site of Public Education Guest Lecture: Nicole Aszalos, Museum of Archaeology	King: Preface, Chapter 1 & 2 Belanger: Chapter 3
Oct. 4	Place Based Knowledge – Indigenous Geography	R Herman (2008) Reflections on the Importance of Indigenous Geography. American Indian Culture and Research Journal: 2008, Vol. 32, No. 3, pp. 73-88. http://uclajournals.org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/doi/pdf/10.17953/aicr.32.3.n301616057133485 King: Chapters 3-5 Belanger: Chapter 2
Oct.11	Indigeneity and Settler States: Canada	King: Chapters 6-8 Belanger: Chapters 4 & 5
Oct. 18	The Natural World & Human Responsibilities	King: Chapters 9 & 10 Additional readings TBA
Oct. 25	Contemporary Environmental Issues Due: Book Reflection	Readings TBA
Nov. 1	Research Legacies Due: Museum Exhibit Plan	Readings TBA
Nov. 8	Native Militarism Guest Lecture	Belanger: Chapter 8
Nov. 15	North American Border Issues	Luna-Firebaugh, Eileen M. "The Border Crossed Us: Border Crossing Issues of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas." Wicazo Sa Review 17.1 (2002): 159-81. http://www.jstor.org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/table/pdf/1409565.pdf
Nov. 22	Indigeneity & Settler States: USA	TBA
Nov. 29	Indigeneity & Settler States: Aotearoa/New Zealand	TBA
Dec. 6	Semester Review Due: Letter to the Editor	No reading
Dec. 10-21	Mid-Term Examination Period – exam date to be announced	Happy Vacation!
Jan. 3	Indigeneity & Settler States: Australia	TBA

Jan. 10	Indigeneity & Settler States: UNDRIP and beyond	TBA
Jan. 17	Education in Historical Perspective	TBA
Jan. 24	Contemporary Education Matters	TBA
Jan. 31	Trajectories of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission	TBA
Feb. 7	Indigenous Health I	Belanger: Chapter 13
Feb. 14	Indigenous Health II	TBA
Feb. 20-24	Reading Week	
Feb. 28	Reclaiming, Renaming, Repatriating/Rematriating Due: Research Essay	TBA
Mar. 7	Indigenous Media Production	Belanger: Chapter 14
Mar. 14	Native Humor	TBA
Mar. 21	Music as Cultural Expression Due: Museum Exhibit Project	TBA
Mar. 28	Gardening, Heritage Seeds & Supporting Bio-Diversity	TBA
Apr. 4	Exam Review	
Apr. 9-30	Final Examination Period – exam date to be announced	
The instructor reserves the right to alter this lecture schedule with notice to the students.		

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.

If you require academic accommodations due to disability you must be registered with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147. These disabilities include, but are not limited to, vision, hearing and mobility impairments, learning disabilities, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders. Your instructor will work with you and SSD to best address your needs.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
PLAGIARISM

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using

quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

- A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

- B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs. You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form.

In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Ursula Doxtator, Program Coordinator, First Nations Studies Program, 519-661-2111 x86429, udoxtato@uwo.ca.