

NS210
Native Issues and Insights I
3 Credits

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NS210 Version: 7



Native Issues and Insights I

Calendar Description

An overview of various background issues in Native Studies that continue to have a definite impact on the contemporary Canadian Aboriginal situation. The focus of the course will be from a Native Studies perspective and deal with issues such as Aboriginal rights, conditions regarding land claims and colonialism.

Rationale

This is a prerequisite for many upper level courses in Native Studies. The course supplies an introduction to the historical background impacting on current Aboriginal issues, both for those students continuing in Native Studies and those who wish to expand their cultural perspectives.

Prerequisites

None

Co-Requisites

None

General Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. define and discuss terms central to the understanding of Aboriginal issues, such as: culture, colonialism, sovereignty, interdependence, rights, fiduciary responsibility, and self-government.
2. write a well-organized, effective, research proposal.
3. write knowledgeably about the content and context of key pieces of legislation and judicial decisions, such as: the Royal Proclamation of 1763, the Indian Act of 1876, the "numbered treaties," Bill C-31 in 1985, Aboriginal health and education rights, land claims, and the Residential School settlements.
4. write thoughtful, balanced academically acceptable essays about such central issues as Aboriginal cultures, the fur trade, military alliances, Christian missions, the reserve

system, the Indian Act, residential schools, Aboriginal health, Aboriginal leadership, land claims, and self-government.

5. present a well researched, organized, presentation about a topic relevant to the objectives of the course.

Essential Employability Skills

Essential employability skills are critical for workplace success and lifelong learning. Lakeland College prepares its graduates for the workplace and lifelong learning by integrating and promoting essential employability skills development in its curricula. Each credit course offered at Lakeland College emphasizes one or more of the following five essential employability skills:

- A. **Communication Skills** that enable individuals to listen, interpret, express, and convey knowledge and ideas so that they are received and understood.
- B. **Teamwork Skills** that enable individuals to respect the thoughts and opinions of others as they work together to plan activities, meet deadlines, complete projects, and contribute to an organization's goals.
- C. **Critical Thinking Skills** that enable individuals to conceptualize and analyze issues from various perspectives while rationally evaluating the strengths and limitations of each perspective and deciding what action to take.
- D. **Adaptability Skills** that enable individuals to respond quickly, willingly, and positively to new conditions and changing times.
- E. **Positive Attitude and Behavioural Skills** that enable individuals to be confident about themselves and to deal with people, problems, and situations with honesty, integrity, and personal ethics.

Please refer to the Knowledge/Skills Matrix of this course outline to review the essential employability skills emphasized in this course.

Resource Materials

Required Texts:

Ray, Arthur J. *I Have Lived Here Since the World Began*. Toronto: Key Porter Books, 1996.

Conduct of Course

Since the course emphasizes the historical background (to the issues considered), there is frequent use of lectures and presentations. However, an ongoing effort is made to relate the historical background to current issues (although a full-fledged examination of current issues is the focus of NS 211) and in that context discussion is encouraged. Both during discussion and in the written assignments, there is an emphasis on including Aboriginal perspectives as well as on the traditional academic skills of balance, logic, evidence, evaluation of sources, etc.

Students are expected to make at least one oral presentation to the class.

Evaluation Procedures

The final grade is a weighted average of the following:

CP = Class Participation	5 %
RP = Research Proposal	10 %
ME = Mid-Term Exam	15 %
OP = Oral Presentation to the class	15 %
RE = Research Essay	20 %
FE = Final Exam	<u>35 %</u>
TOTAL	100 %

No supplemental assignments or examination re-writes are permitted in this course.

Knowledge/Skills Matrix

Students apply and demonstrate their knowledge and skills to use

A. Communication Skills

A1. by listening, reading, interpreting information, and communicating effectively
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
A2. by using written, spoken, and/or visual formats and media to communicate and meet needs of each particular audience
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
A3. by using libraries, Internet, technical publications, journals and other sources to find pertinent information
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): RP, OP, RE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5

B. Teamwork Skills

B1. by using interpersonal skills to create an atmosphere that maximizes the strengths of group members to accomplish tasks
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
B2. by using interpersonal skills to resolve conflict, relate to others, and assist others
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, OP/5
B3. by contributing and listening to others as group determines realistic objectives, prioritizes tasks, and identifies resources and timelines
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, OP/2, 5
B4. by treating other members of the group open-mindedly and fairly
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, OP/5
B5. by developing tactics/strategies to accomplish tasks
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): RP, OP, RE/2, 4, 5

C. Critical Thinking Skills

C1. by seeing critical thinking as a lifelong process of self-assessment
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4
C2. by examining problems closely
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
C3. by examining beliefs, assumptions, and opinions, and weigh them against the facts
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 3, 4
C4. by seeking out the truth
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
C5. by finding solutions; make decisions
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
C6. by incorporating new ideas that may not necessarily agree with previous thought on the topic
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
C7. by seeing connections between topics and use knowledge from other disciplines to enhance reading and learning experiences
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5

D. Adaptability Skills

D1. by working independently or as part of team
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/2, 4, 5
D2. by carrying out multiple tasks or projects
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): RP, OP, RE/2, 5
D3. by being innovative and resourceful: identify and suggest alternative ways to get the job done
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): RP, OP, RE/2, 5
D4. by being open and respond constructively to change and uncertainty
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/2, 4, 5

E. Positive Attitude and Behavioural Skills

E1. by dealing with people, problems, and situations with honesty, integrity, and personal ethics
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/2, 5
E2. by showing interest, initiative, and effort
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, ME, OP, RE, FE/1, 2, 3, 4, 5
E3. by affirming the need for positive solutions and encourage positive interaction and feedback
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): CP, RP, OP, RE/2, 5
E4. by balancing personal and family activities with job-related activities
Evaluation(s)/Goal(s): RP, ME, OP, RE, FE2/5

Grades

A minimum grade of D is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-60	61-65	66-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success in any course. Absence for any reason does not relieve a student of the responsibility of completing course work and assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor. Poor attendance may result in the termination of a student from a course(s).

If you do not meet the established attendance requirements, your instructor will recommend that the Registrar withdraw you from the course. A failing grade of RW (Required to Withdraw) will appear on your transcript.

In cases of repeated absences due to illness, the student may be requested to submit a medical certificate.

Instructors have the authority to require attendance at classes.

Course Units/Calendar

Topic 1	Early Amerindian/European Contact	Ray, Chaps. 1-5
Topic 2	Fur trade experiences	Ray, Chaps. 6-8
Topic 3	Missionary experiences	
Topic 4	Early leaders: Pontiac, Tecumseh, Brant	Ray, Chaps. 9-10
Topic 5	Treaties, reservations, resistance	Ray, Chaps. 11-14
Topic 6	A century on the margin - 1885 - 1985	Ray, Chaps. 16-19



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