



University of Calgary  
Department of Political Science  
INDG 201 (L01)  
INTRODUCTION TO INDIGENOUS STUDIES  
Spring 2018  
M & W - 12:00 - 2:45  
Location: SB 148

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Instructor: Ramona Beatty  
Email: rgjbeatt@ucalgary.ca  
Office Hours: SS 721-Monday 3:00-4:00 or by appointment

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the study of Indigenous peoples in Canada with links to Indigenous peoples in other parts of the world. Students will be encouraged to see the Indigenous world through a set of multiple lenses and to develop a more multifaceted understanding of Indigenous societies, the issues that they are facing, how they are dealing with them and the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and societies.

Utilizing global, regional and local examples, the student will acquire a fundamental understanding of some of the main issues that affect Indigenous peoples in Canada and around the world. The course will explore Indigenous people's histories, world views and contemporary realities.

The course will incorporate a multi-disciplinary approach of study, including the frameworks of history, sociology, anthropology, economics, linguistics, political studies, cultural studies, critical theory, among others to examine and analyze the current issues, structures and processes of Indigenous life.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Indigenous Peoples, historical context and current issues
- Indigenous Cultural Identity and Representation
- Economic and Social Development Issues

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To instil in the student an international orientation to Indigenous peoples and the challenges Indigenous peoples face.
- To increase the student's awareness of, understanding of, and respect for Indigenous worldviews and perspectives, knowledge, realities, experiences, and cultures from around the world.
- To introduce the student to ways of knowing that fall outside the western scientific precepts.
- To demonstrate insights about Indigenous realities from a multi-disciplinary approach (e.g., history, sociology, anthropology, political science, economics, and literature) to the field of Indigenous Studies.
- To give the student experience at critically thinking and analyzing Indigenous peoples experiences within a historical and contemporary context.
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- To develop in the student an understanding of colonialism, and the diverse and enduring impacts upon Indigenous people, and the commonalities it creates among Indigenous peoples
- To increase knowledge of the legacy of the colonial relationship between Indigenous and Settler societies
- To expand understanding of the concepts of Indigenous and de-colonization

## CLASS STRUCTURE AND INSTRUCTION METHODS

The course draws from a mixture of Western and Indigenous knowledge. Methods include: short lectures, videos, class discussions, student presentations, and presentations by guest lecturers. The lectures provide the basic course material. The course syllabus and schedule **may be** altered throughout the term to accommodate emerging issues and events. **Note:** Readings for the scheduled day need to be read **prior** to class.

## TEXTBOOKS AND ASSIGNED READINGS

No Nonsense Guide to Indigenous Peoples – Second Edition, Lotte Hughes, Between the Lines 2012

Additional readings and links will be posted on D2L

**Communication-** I will respond to emails within 48 hours but not on weekends.

#### ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

<b>Quiz #1 in class</b>	15%
<b>Quiz #2 Take Home Exam</b>	15 %
<b>Quiz #3 In class</b>	10%
<b>Research Project In Class Presentation and Discussion Questions</b>	25 %
<b>Class Participation</b>	15%
<b>Final Essay</b>	20%
	100%

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#### **Quiz #1 – In Class- 15% - May 28**

**We will be discussing many points of view, personal experiences, Indigenous cultures, and different ways of viewing societal structures. The quiz will consist of short answer questions based on readings, media presentations (film & audio), lectures and discussions. Coverage: all readings and class material to May 28**

#### **Quiz #2- Take Home 15 % - Due June 4 by midnight (11:59 p.m.).**

**The quiz will consist of long answer questions based on readings, media presentations (film & audio), lectures and discussions. Coverage: all readings and class material to June 4  
Submission is via the digital Dropbox in the course's D2L site.**

**Quiz#3 – In class 10% - June 11**

**The quiz will consist of short answer questions based on readings, media presentations (film & audio), lectures and discussions. Coverage: all readings and class material to June 6**

**Individual Research Project Presentation and Discussion Questions-25% - June 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27**

The class will be given a list of topics to research and you may choose one. You are responsible for a research project that will focus on the development and presentation of a formal and in class oral presentation on your chosen topic. The presentation will examine a historical and/or contemporary issue/topic that is related to Indigenous peoples. Please ensure that your topic incorporates the course objectives. You will be required to research and develop a 45 minute seminar/ lesson which will include class discussion and questions. The presentation will be completed in class and may include handouts and visual aids (power point, web project, art piece or any other appropriate presentational approach). Reference materials should be incorporated in the presentation utilizing APA format.

The presentation must critically examine and analyze an issue facing Indigenous people and explore the impact on them from a historical and contemporary perspective. (e.g. colonization, globalization, Indigenous Rights)

You will need to discuss your project with me by **May 28**

You will be responsible for developing and providing to the instructor three discussion questions and a thorough and accurate response to the questions.

The presentation requires at least **6** references which must be from academic sources. Reference materials should be incorporated in the presentation and synopsis utilizing APA or MLA format.

Please provide the instructor with hard copies of presentation materials, references, and questions/answers.

**Failure by a student to present to** the class will result in a failing grade.

**Final Essay – 20 %**

The essay is an 8-10 page research paper that critically analyzes your presentation topic's concepts and constructs and the relationship to the course objectives.

**Class Participation – 15 %**

Participation is deemed as attendance, class discussion and active participation in group learning. This course will be highly interactive and will include various opportunities for active engagement during each class session, including organized discussions, debates, small group work, etc. Your participation will be graded based on the consistency and thoughtfulness of your contributions, and on your alert and respectful interaction with others in the class.

**GRADING SCALE**

A+	96 – 100%
A	90 – 95.99%
A -	85 – 89.99%
B+	80 – 84.99%
B	75 – 79.99%
B -	70 – 74.99%

C+	65 – 69.99%
C	60 – 64.99%
C -	55 – 59.99%
D+	53 – 54.99%
D	50 – 52.99%
F	0 – 49.99%

**The International Indigenous Studies Program uses the percentage conversion scale below. Your final grade will be converted to the University's official 4-point scale at the end of term. The interpretation of the undergraduate university grading system can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>. The A+ grade is assigned rarely, and only for absolutely breathtaking work.**

**It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.**

**Writing Statement:**

Written assignments are often required in Indigenous Studies courses, including this one, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library) or at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### **Absence from a Mid-term Examination:**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons (e.g. illness with the appropriate documentation) are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

### **Deferral of term work:**

Instructors are normally free, subject to any established departmental or faculty procedures, to administer their own policies regarding deadlines for the completion of term papers or assignments. Please see policies on this course outline. Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

### **Deferral of a Final Examination:**

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams> .

### **Appeals:**

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head of Political Science. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment. Please note that the “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

### **University Regulations:**

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at

[www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html).

#### Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

#### Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty

#### Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests will be destroyed after three months; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

#### Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints) and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

#### Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising) for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

#### Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)

Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551 Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997 Email: ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420 Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Facebook Group for Indigenous Studies Program: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/UC.IIST/>

Program Website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/indg/>

Native Centre Website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/nativecentre/>