



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS STUDIES
COURSE OUTLINE

INDG 317 Ecological Knowledge

Summer 2018

MW 16:00-18:45 | SS 010

Instructor: Line Laplante

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Office hours: Wednesday 15:00-15:45

Course website: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home/224710>

Course description: Experiential exploration, consideration, and application of Indigenous ecological knowledge, philosophies, and contemporary issues. There is no prerequisite for this course, however knowledge of Indigenous ways of knowing is an asset. This course may not be repeated for credit. Students are expected to attend field trips, as they form the basis for self-reflexivity papers and the main class project.

Course objectives: The overarching aim of teachings during our time together is to learn about ways that the environment is continuously communicating with and between all beings using Indigenous ways of knowing, learning, and connecting.

Learning outcomes: Students come away from the course with a deeper sense of Indigenous cosmology; likewise, with tools to affect environmental change that incorporate the TRCs (2015) “Calls to Action” and urban planning on biodiversity.

Assignments and Evaluation:

<i>SUMMARY</i>		<i>Due date</i>	<i>Value (%)</i>
1.	Self-reflexivity paper #1 – on field trip #1 only	July 16	15
2.	Self-reflexivity paper #2 – on field trip #2 only	July 23	15
3.	Self-reflexivity paper #3 – on field trip #3 only	August 7	20
4.	Group Submission of Class Project (except “editor & co-editors” group)	August 6	25
5.	i. Class Project Presentation ii. Editor & Co-editors Group Submission - submit digital format to D2L dropbox by 15:30 – used for class presentations	August 13	15
IMPORTANT: A book chapter will be posted to D2L on August 14 relating to the final exam – please read prior to the exam.			
6.	In-class final exam – also incorporates experiential learning from field trip #4	August 15	10

Texts and readings: There are two sources of readings – a “Book of Readings” available for purchase at the University of Calgary Bookstore and readings posted on D2L (full articles and links). Supplementary readings are found using UofC’s catalogue.

Writing Statement:

Written assignments such as the “reflexivity papers” and “group and/or individual submission of the class project” are often required in Political Science 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 considered in the determination of grades. The Student Success Centre offers writing support in many forms. If you need individual coaching, or **wish to attend a workshop, go to the following website:**

http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/undergraduate_writing_workshops

Class Schedule:

- July 4 Introduction to course, course outline, and expectation of students.
Oral-based knowledge systems in relation to ecological knowledge; discussion – what is the shift in thinking required to gain a better perspective on Indigenous worldviews?
- The role and teachings of creation stories in our academic and daily life.
- How will self-reflexivity be incorporated in this course?
- July 9 Exploration of human relationship with the natural environment; discussion – what is land-based ecology, TEK, and IK; demonstration on how to balance “mismatched eyes” (a.k.a., opposing worldviews)
- Directions to field trip #1 – history of glacial erratics & relationship to Indigenous peoples
- Discussion of photographs of glacial erratic sites for Class Project
Readings: 1. Kim, E-J A., A. Asghar & S. Jordan. (2017: 258-270)
2. Stalker, A. MacS. (1956: 1-13)
3. Raffan, J. (1993: 39-45)
Suggested reading:
Colorado, P. (1988). Bridging Native and Western Science. *Convergence*, 21(2-3): 49-69.
- July 11 **Field Trip #1: (Glacial erratics – north Calgary)**
Meet on site at 4:00 PM – field class runs to 6:45 PM
Readings: 1. McLeod, N. (2007: 19-32)
Suggested reading:
Bender, H. (2011). The spirit of manitou across North America, (pp. 143-164). In Gheorghiu, D. (Eds.). *Archaeology Experiences Spirituality?*
Assignment: Self-reflexivity paper #1 due July 16 (15%) – based on field trip #1, only
- July 16 Report planning for class project – discussion and division of tasks for project
Readings: 1. Truth & Reconciliation Commission Report (2015),
[http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls to Action English2.pdf](http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls%20to%20Action%20English2.pdf)
See: “Calls to Action” around education, culture, and land – how might these “calls” fit into Calgary’s Biodiversity Plan for Calgarians with respect to place, sacred spaces, cultural identity and inclusion?

2. City of Calgary's Biodiversity Plan,
<http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Parks/Pages/Planning-and-Operations/Biodiversity.aspx>
and
http://www.calgary.ca/_layouts/cocis/DirectDownload.aspx?target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.calgary.ca%2fCSPS%2fParks%2fDocuments%2fPlanning-and-Operations%2fBiodiverCity-strategic-plan.pdf&noredirect=1&sf=1

3. Westman, C. & T.L. Joly. (2017: 360-375)

- Discussion on importance of erratics (a.k.a. "buffalo rubbing stones") to Indigenous identity, historical and cultural significance, Indigenous language, and cosmology, etc.
- Directions to field trip #2 – continuation of glacial erratics

- July 18 **Field Trip #2: (Glacial erratics – southeast & south Calgary)**
Meet on site at 4:00 PM – field class runs to 6:45 PM
Reading: Stalker, A. Mac. (1956: 14-30)
Assignment: Self-reflexivity paper #2 due July 23 (15%) – based on this field trip, only
- July 23 Perception exercise (using play-doh) – exercise is based on today's reading
Reading: Auger, D. (1997: 326-351)
- Discussion on seeing and listening to the natural world; learning through storytelling
- July 25 **Part 1:** Progress on class project – group work
Part 2: Reading: Simpson, L.B. (2014: 1-25)
- Discussion on using a "Nature Template" to learn about Indigenous ecological knowledge; What's in your maple syrup?
- July 30 **Part 1:** Examination of star constellations as IEK; Wilfred Buck, Cree science educator
Download planisphere: https://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/docs/education/planisphere_e.pdf
and http://wildernessastronomy.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/first_nations_star_chart_canada_mcmahon.jpg - bring both to class.
Suggested reading:
1. Bender, H. (2011). The spirit of manitou across North America, (pp. 165-177). In Gheorghiu, D. (Ed.). *Archaeology Experiences Spirituality?* UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
Part 2: Discussion on preparing for the upcoming two field trips & ceremony; what to look for in terms of self-reflexivity; Video on a buffalo jump & pictographs
- Directions for field trip #3 – Grotto Canyon, Exshaw
- August 1 **Field Trip # 3: Grotto Canyon, Exshaw**
Reading: Magne M. & M. Klassen. (2002: 1-24) – find this article posted on D2L
Assignment: Self-reflexivity paper #3 due Aug. 7 – submit using D2L dropbox (20%) – based on this field trip, only
- Directions for field trip # 4 distributed in class and not posted on D2L
- August 6 (Alberta Heritage Day, no class, university closed)
DUE: Submission of group portion of class project – post on D2L (25%)
NOTE: "Editor & Co-Editor" group is due on August 13th (in digital format –to be discussed in class)

August 8 **Field trip # 4: near Airdrie**

Suggested reading:

Bouchet-Bert, L. (Feb. 1999). From spiritual and biographic to boundary-marking deterrent art: A reinterpretation of Writing-On-Stone. *Plains Anthropologist*, 44(167), 27-46.

NOTE: Experiential knowledge gained from this field trip & ceremony will be reflected in the *In-class final exam*.

August 13 “Editor(s) & Co-Editors” portion of group project – submit in digital form – also to be used for the group presentation (25%) – see August 6

- Group presentations of Class Project (15%)

Reading: Weber, A. (2017: 159-177)

IMPORTANT:

On **August 14**, a book chapter will be posted to D2L – be sure to read this as it will be used in the final exam.

August 15 Reading:

In-class final exam. (10%)

Closed book except a hard copy of the book chapter (posted on D2L on August 14th) will be supplied by instructor—electronic devices are not permitted during the exam.

IMPORTANT:

1. Post all assignments to the D2L dropbox **OR** hand-in a hard copy during class on their due dates.
2. **A late penalty of 5% per day** is applied after midnight on the due date of each individual assignment except for the “Editor & Co-Editors” Group Project Submission – digital format – this is due August 13th. See further “late penalty” description below.
3. It is the students’ responsibility to ensure that your D2L account and features function properly.
4. Please DO NOT email me your assignments.
5. Group submission of the Class Project is required to pass the course. Group members are expected to do their share of work; should this not be the case, group members will be asked to write a statement explaining problematic situations. A group meeting may be called with the instructor to discuss and resolve issues. Collegial and full participation is expected of all students.
6. Field trips take place as scheduled including during inclement weather. However, schedule may be subject to change due to weather and unexpected events.
7. Field trip protocols (recordings and photographs) will be discussed in class.

Course and University Policies

- Attendance may not be assessed on its own as a grade component: refer to Calendar Section E.3. Attendance. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-3.html>. However, attendance will be taken on field trips to ensure student safety and correlation with assignment submissions.
- Post all assignments to D2L’s dropbox before midnight on their due dates—D2L date stamps submission. Electronic failure is not a viable reason for lateness. A hard copy of

assignments (typed) can be handed-in during class hours on their due dates. Students are encouraged to complete all assignments to maximize their passing grades.

- Extra-credit assignments are not available for this course.
- **A late penalty of 5% per day** is applied **after midnight on the due date of each individual assignment**. For example, assignment #1 is due July 16, thus should the assignment be submitted on July 17, its grade value drops 5% before grading. Should the assignment be submitted on July 18, its grade value drops 10% before grading, and so forth. The late penalty applies to business days only and not weekends.
- Please email a full day ahead of time by e-mail should extenuating circumstances arise that impede the submission of assignments on their due dates. I expect that you will respect my need to plan my workload; also the nature of a face-paced 6-week course The submission of assignments by their due dates alleviates stress as well as provides immediate feedback.
- If life circumstances or illness intervene, I may ask for documentation and refer you to the Program Co-ordinator of Indigenous Studies for advice, particularly if you have missed several classes.
- The Group Project (group submission and group presentation) combined is worth 40% of the course grade. It is a terminal project and can weigh over 10%. Please refer to Calendar, G. Examinations and Tests: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g.html>.
- The Group Project is especially important, as students contribute to affect environmental change. Students who do not submit their share of work will be penalized either individually or as a group depending on the situation and possible group feedback.
- There is no mid-term exam or a Registrar scheduled exam. The final term exam is scheduled for August 15 during regular class time.

Grading System:

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>.

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>.

- Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, I will use this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, creativity and originality.
- Should an assignment demonstrate an exemplary standard, a bonus mark may be awarded.
- Ethics approval is not required for this course as research with human or animal subjects will not take place.
- Laptops are permitted in class for notetaking and NOT for social networking. Please respect the instructor and fellow classmates by NOT texting during class.
- Students are expected to participate in class discussions having completed their readings. Our time together is limited and ought to be focused on education, sharing of knowledge, and completing course requirements.
- Computers and other electronic devices are not permitted during the final exam.
- There are no additional costs or supplementary fees, however students are expected to make their way to field trip sites on their own accord. Past courses have seen students arrange car pools among themselves. Students will be asked to contribute (if possible) to the ceremonial feast on the last field trip.

Course work submissions for Indigenous Studies:

Should a student wish to submit a hard copy of an assignment or group submission outside of regular class hours, please submit to SS 756 (Department of Political Science, 7th floor of Social Sciences) during their office hours. When the office is closed, the brown dropbox is located on the wall beside SS 756. Please send an email to the instructor advising that you have done this.

Submissions should no longer be submitted to the 1st floor, SS 102.

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>

Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the *Calendar* for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

Grade 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>

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>

See *Calendar*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.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/.

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>.

Academic Misconduct:

For information on academic misconduct and the consequences thereof please see the current University of Calgary Calendar at the following link:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Student Ombuds Office:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact>

The Student Ombuds Office offers a safe place for undergraduate and graduate students of the University of Calgary to discuss student related issues, interpersonal conflict, academic and non-academic concerns (including appeals), and many other problems.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

There are four Arts reps, with the email addresses being arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, and arts4@su.ucalgary.ca. Please contact if you have questions related to Students Union matters, events, or concerns.

Faculty of Arts Students' Centre and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts. Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

"Safewalk" Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals' day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, *students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also, you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.*

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully.

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense.

Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your work. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself.

Readers must be able to tell *exactly* where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources and become very familiar with penalties for plagiarism and academic misconduct.

The University *Calendar* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/2/>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points:

Please note the evacuation points for this classroom. All classrooms on campus exit to specific places in case of emergency. The emergency assembly points differ depending upon where your classroom is located. For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/building-evacuation/assembly-points>