

~UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS

INDG 401 Spring 2016

**Research in Selected Topics in International Indigenous Studies:  
*Reconciliation and the University***

---

**Aruna Srivastava**

**office: SS1148**

**e-mail: [asrivast@ucalgary.ca](mailto:asrivast@ucalgary.ca)**

**office hours: before and after class, or by arrangement**

**Facebook group: TBA**

**Calendar description:** Various topics in the area of International Indigenous Studies on the basis of special interest and need. Normally the course will have a research component. This course may not be repeated for credit.

**Course description:**

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada issued its final report, including 94 Calls to Action: recommendations on child welfare, education, language and culture, health, justice, reconciliation, the law, religion, the media, business & sports, among others. Many are of direct relevance to colleges, universities, and professional schools.

In this course, we will look at the history of the TRC, its Calls to Action, and how universities have responded. We will focus on efforts at indigenization at the University of Calgary, as well as at other post-secondary institutions. This will be both a research-based and experiential course. Students will attend events at the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities, a large conference being held at University of Calgary from May 28-June 3. Before and after this conference, we will meet to discuss contexts of reconciliation in Canada, how to implement both the TRC's and other calls to action related to indigenous peoples, education, and the university, focusing on the specific ways in which we ourselves can respond to the Calls to Action.

A knowledge of indigenous history in Canada will be a component of this course, particularly of residential school history, treaties and treaty-making, and the various reports and documents specifically cited in the TRC summary report.

Please note: The class is scheduled on MWF 12:00 - 2:45 from May 9-June 30; we will not be meeting at all of these times, so we can account for the time spent attending Congress events. Most Spring courses are not meeting from May 28-June 6.

**Texts and readings:**

Most will be available online, and much of your work will entail attendance at Congress 2016 on campus. However, you will be required to read the TRC summary report and Calls To Action, and many of the other resources archived on the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#) website. In addition, you will find a large number of resources on D2L. I will also ask you to research, listen to, watch and read accounts and stories by residential school survivors (many on NCTR site as well), in books such as *Speaking My Truth* (also available online), and to read some (sometimes quite dry) material from schools and universities reporting on their initiatives on indigenization and reconciliation. If in doubt, check D2L.

**Costs:** The one additional cost associated with this course is Congress registration, although there are a large number of public events. If you wish to register for Congress, I will arrange to reimburse you for or pay your fees.

### **Evaluation by portfolio:**

Please note that this course fulfills the senior-level requirement for the IIST program. It should also demonstrate a significant research component. In the context of indigenization and indigenous studies we will discuss what research (and the ethics of research) means, and how attending the Congress conference illuminates these concepts for us. However you choose to weight your portfolio assignments, you must submit a detailed plan of what your portfolio will include. While the portfolio is worth 100% of the grade, it will contain several components that you will break down by weight, with no component being weighted less than 15%. If you do not submit a revised breakdown of assignments, each component of the course will be weighted as below.

- A research component (such as an annotated bibliography or short research-based reviews of Congress conference presentations, presentations of your own, etc.), keeping in mind that your research may take several forms. (Required component.) **25%**
- A reflective component (such as a reflective or critical journal. This journal will include your responses and critical thinking about our activities, readings, discussions, as well as reflections on the events you attend at Congress. (Required component.) **35%**
- A collaborative component (this might involve working with individuals inside or outside of class, guests, or the class in its entirety, and will include what would normally be assessed as participation. I strongly encourage you to include a participation component as part of your portfolio, but you will decide how significant it will be in the end (remember that attending Congress events will count as participation and, in some cases, collaboration). (Required component) **40%**
- I also encourage creative work, or creative expressions of any of the above.  
*Please note that these components may well overlap; that is, you may wish to reflect critically on your research methods and conclusions in journal form; engage in collaborative journaling or research on indigenization and reconciliation.*
- I strongly encourage and occasionally require that work be completed online (D2L and a discussion group, at least, as well as online library research). Please discuss with me ahead of time if you are unable to submit an assignment through D2L. I don't accept assignments by e-mail.

Instructions for various items in your portfolio will be provided in D2L, and discussed in class.

You will let me know, in writing, what your main portfolio components and weightings will be. Our conversation will cover how you feel the components above have been addressed, and what projects you see yourself undertaking. I have required two portfolio "projects", as well as participation, as part of your portfolio. However, if you do more, keep in mind that portfolios may contain incomplete or provisional work. If you have a sustained single project in mind, we can discuss that as well. Each of you will write up a post-Congress portfolio proposal with a breakdown (due Monday, June 6 through D2L). We will discuss your plans and sign a contract indicating we agree to your proposed work and timeline.. The due date for your work is July 6, preferably earlier. If you cannot get your work in by this date, please talk to me or an advisor about options for extending your time to complete course work. Although it is not required, I strongly suggest that you come in (or Skype/Google Chat/FB chat in) before I submit my grades. (This is normally a course requirement in my other courses).

*There is no registrar-scheduled final exam for this course. If you wish in your portfolio to have a formal or informal oral discussion with me about the course work before the final due date, please give me plenty of lead time. Students will often use these for the research component of their portfolios.*

### **Grading system:**

Although final grades are eventually converted to the 4-point system by the university, these are the grade ranges and specific numeric values I assign to letter grades in my grading program. Any individual assignment grade is converted to the mid-point value of the grade range.

<b>A+</b>	<b>96-100</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>90-95.99</b>
<b>A -</b>	<b>85-89.99</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>80-84.99</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>75-79.99</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>70-74.99</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>65-69.99</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>60-64.99</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>55-59.99</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>53-54.99</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>50-52.99</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>0-49</b>

---

**Facebook Group for Indigenous Studies Program:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UC.IIST/>

**Program Website:**

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

**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:**

Consult the following University *Calendar* link and request advice from the Program Co-ordinator or the Arts Students' Centre, SS102. Please note that "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 and final examinations:**

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 beyond the deadline of *five days after the end of lectures*, 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-6.html> and <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

**Academic accommodation:**

It is a student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and if you have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of this course.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. See also policies about prolonged illness and consult the recent Student Accommodation Policy at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

**"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 in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.*

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

**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.html>

**Student Ombuds Office:**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), and [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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 SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

**Writing support at U of C:**

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](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/undergraduate_writing_workshops)

**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-2-1.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 particular 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

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>