

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, EDUCATION AND COMMERCE
ANTHROPOLOGY 2500
NORTH AMERICAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

SESSION: Fall or Winter
Time:
Location:

Instructor: Laurie Nock
Office: C215
Phone: 539-2830 (office)
539-7348 (home)

Office Hours: Drop-ins welcome.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course serves the dual purpose of helping students learn of the aboriginal societies of North America, and demonstrating the value and techniques of the ethnographic method. We shall study the economic, political, social and ideological systems of the peoples of the principal cultural/ecological areas of North America (the Arctic, the Subarctic, the Plateau, the Plains, the Northwest Coast, California, the Northeastern Woodlands, the Southeastern Woodlands, the American Southwest, and Mexico). Major themes in the course will be contrasting the environments and cultures of these areas and understanding their reshaping in the historical period. In addition to working with these concepts and this information, students will choose a cross-cultural research topic of special interest to them (e.g. art, warfare and/or hunting patterns, kinship and family, diet and health).

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Eight take-home questions will be assigned during the course of the term. Responses to these questions are worth 10% each of the final course grade, and are likely to be five pages (i.e. up to 1250 words) in length. The best six marks the student achieves on these will be worth 10% each of the final course mark. Students will submit an essay, fifteen to twenty pages in length, on the topic they have chosen to investigate. Their findings will be shared with the class or in small groups. The final examination in the course will also consist of responses to two take-home questions based on the course and on class presentations.

Assignments must be handed in to the instructor in class on the day they are due. Excessive grammatical or spelling errors will result in the loss of 2 out of 9 points.

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Eight Take-home questions	60*	Weekly, starting in week 3
Final two questions	20	One week after last class
Essay	20	Week 13

* The best six of these eight marks will be used in the calculation of the course mark.

Grading System

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Interpretation</u>
9	
8	Excellent

7	
6	Good

5	
4	Pass

3	
2	
1	Fail

Required texts

Kehoe, Alice B.
1992 NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS: A COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT. Second Edition. Prentice Hall.

Other readings will be assigned during the term, and will be available on Reserve in the Library.

Prerequisite: Anthropology 1010 (Introductory Anthropology)