



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016**

**AN2550 (A3): CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN NATIVE PEOPLES – 3 (3-0-0)  
45 HOURS**

Instructor: Laurie Nock, PhD                      Phone: 780-539-2830  
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Office hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 11:30-12:45 p.m.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** A 3-credit course in the social sciences and second-year standing.

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Belanger, Yale D. (2014). *Ways of knowing: an introduction to Native Studies in Canada*.  
Nelson Education Ltd. ISBN 978-0-17-650863-0

THE INDIAN ACT 1985.

<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/I-5/FullText.html>

TREATY 8

<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100028813/1100100028853>

OTHER READINGS WILL BE ASSIGNED DURING THE TERM.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Anthropological perspectives on some current situations of Native peoples in Canada.

**CREDIT / CONTACT HOURS:** 3 credits / 3 hours per week

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- Overview of the demographic characteristics of Aboriginal peoples of Canada;
- Brief ethnographic survey of Aboriginal peoples of Canada;
- Detailed study of the history, contents and implications of treaties, particularly Treaty 8;
- Detailed study of the Indian Act, its history and consequences;
- Study of documentary films on Indigenous Canada;
- Discussion of the economic, social, political, physical and ideological effects of colonization on Indigenous peoples of Canada;
- Analysis of the thinking behind residential schools and of the attempts to undo harm done (initially extremely clumsy and harmful);

- Study of Indigenous thinkers, strategies of resistance and healing of damages caused by colonization and modernization.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Students should be able to

- roughly estimate the numbers of First Nations, Métis and Inuit, and provide a number of reasons why accurate numbers are impossible to arrive at.
- name and locate the landscapes and culture areas of Canada and identify First Nations communities and cultures associated with them.
- devise some strategies for dealing with stereotypes.
- interpret and restate Treaty language, demonstrating comprehension of various understandings of Commissioners' reports, oral history, and Treaty promises.
- trace the ongoing transformation in Canadian laws governing Indians and First Nations, and describe the rationalizations covering the legislation.
- analyze the social and political messages communicated in documentaries on Indigenous peoples in Canada.
- make sense of the effects of colonization and recognize many approaches to decolonization.

**TRANSFERABILITY: University Transfer: UA, UC, UL, AU, CU, KUC**

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**GRADING CRITERIA:  
FOR IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS ONLY**

ALPHA GRADE	4-POINT EQUIVALENT	PERCENTAGE
A+	4.3	80-100
A	4.0	76-79
A-	3.7	73-75
B+	3.3	70-72
B	3.0	67-69
B-	2.7	64-66
C+	2.3	60-63
C	2.0	55-59
C-	1.7	50-54
D+	1.3	45-49
D	1.0	40-44
F	0.0	<40

For other assignments the following chart is used:

ALPHA GRADE	4-POINT EQUIVALENT	PERCENTAGE
A+	4.3	95-100
A	4.0	85-94
A-	3.7	80-84
B+	3.3	77-79
B	3.0	73-76
B-	2.7	70-72
C+	2.3	67-69
C	2.0	63-66
C-	1.7	60-62
D+	1.3	55-59
D	1.0	50-54
F	0.0	<50

### EVALUATIONS:

**In-class assignments** (e.g. quizzes, group work, presentations, answers to questions on readings) will be timed at the instructor's discretion and will be worth 25% percent of the final course grade. Some of these will require work prior to class. There will be no make-ups for in-class work.

Twice during the semester, students will research on the Internet and report on a contemporary Canadian Aboriginal thinker, assigned at random from a list prepared by the instructor. Each class presentation will take up to ten minutes. A written summary of the publications and concerns of each personality is required, along with references in APA format. This will be made available to all students on Moodle.

**Major assignments:** Three written assignments are required for 75% of the final course grade on Treaties, the Indian Act and documentary films.

**Final examination:** In compliance with the Examination Policy, students must sign in for the Final Examination scheduled by the Registrar's Office. At that time, one of the major assignments will be submitted for 30% of the course mark. (This assignment may have been submitted and graded previously, when originally due. To improve your grade, you may correct the assignment as suggested in comments on your work; the original must accompany the corrected version.) For due dates and more detailed descriptions, see below. Only paper copies of assignments are accepted. Double-space all work.

- Treaties 22.5% or 30%
- Indian Act 22.5% or 30%
- Documentaries 22.5% or 30%
- In-class Assignments 25%
- (Final examination 30%)

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Links to all Academic and Administrative policies can be found at  
<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

## **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM:**

For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at  
<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/\\*\\*](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**)

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE**

WEEK 0-1                   INTRODUCTION; ETHNOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC \  
OVERVIEW

Belanger      Chapter 2, The land and indigenous political economy, pp.34-52  
Chapter 6, The Métis

WEEKS 2-3                COLONIALISM

WEEKS 4-6                TREATIES

Belanger      Chapter 4, Treaties  
Treaties assignment due before 2 p.m. Friday of Week 6

WEEKS 7-10             INDIAN ACT

Belanger      Chapter 5, The Indian Act and Indian Affairs in Canada,  
Chapter 12, Economic development, pp. 301-308  
Chapter 11, Self-Government, pp. 275-285  
Indian Act assignment due before 2 p.m. Friday of Week 10.

WEEKS 11-13          RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Belanger      Chapter 1, Ways of knowing, and  
Chapter 2, The land and political economy, pp. 26-34  
Documentaries assignment due before 2 p.m. Friday of Week 12.

## **DURING THE TERM**

Belanger      Chapter 8, Political organizing in Canada pp. 219-247  
Chapter 10, Native people and the Canadian justice system  
Chapter 13, Health and well-being in Canada

**OTHER READINGS AS ASSIGNED DURING THE TERM.**