

Course Description Form

Course number and section: English 387/ Cultural Studies 350

Course Topic: Indigenous Literatures: Intellectual Traditions

Credits: 3

Term: Winter T1, 2021

Instructor: Dr. Kerrie Charnley

Course Description: An introduction to Indigenous Peoples' intellectual traditions, including the Oral Tradition, with attention to Indigenous Peoples' cosmologies and realities, through course readings written and voiced by Indigenous People who are intellectuals, scholars, scientists, novelists, journalists, Knowledge Keepers, and artists. We will start by attentively listening to local Syilx knowledge keepers, scholars, elders and journalists speaking about their worldview, values, land ethic. Learners' introductory understanding of Indigenous Peoples' intellectual traditions will be achieved through Indigenous pedagogical approaches such as learning and practicing a holistic and attentive listening to the Land as teacher, guide, and sacred relative, and through engaging in holistically experiential learning projects that include a creative process, and being outdoors in relationship with the Land and with Indigenous Peoples' intellectual tradition. Overall, we will be immersing ourselves in Indigenous Peoples' profound understanding of Land as more than physical, Land as more than place, Land as metaphysical, Land as life force with agency, and in Indigenous Peoples' profound definition of story as an educative and active space, in an ethic of generosity, for transformation towards wholeness, harmony, and balance, and, for sharing our gifts.

Tentative reading list:

Younging, Gregory. *Elements of Indigenous Style: A Guide for Writing by and about Indigenous Peoples*. Brush Publishing, 2018. Available for purchase at the UBC Okanagan Bookstore.

Other course readings will include articles, talks, images, videos and podcasts by Syilx, Stl'atl'imx, Secwepemc, Stó:lō, Seneca, Tewa, Hawaiian, Anishnaabe, Nehiyaw, Métis and other Indigenous scholars, knowledge keepers, authors, journalists and artists (such as Jeannette Armstrong, Jo-ann Archibald Q'um Q'um Xiim, Gregory Cajete, Bill Cohen, Judy Iseke, Manulani Aluli Meyer, John Sotsisowah Mohawk, Leanne Betasamosake Simpson, Tania Willard, Richard Wagamese, Gregory Younging). Links to these and others will be made available on Canvas.

Students have the flexibility to choose one of the following novels to closely read:

Armstrong, Jeanette. *Slash*

Dimaline, Cherie. *The Marrow Thieves*

Momaday, N. Scott. *House Made of Dawn*. (50th Anniversary edition)

Robinson, Eden. *Monkey Beach*

Van Camp, Richard. *Angel Wing Splash Pattern*. (20th Anniversary edition)

Wagamese, Richard. *Indian Horse*.