
Summer Semester 2000

EDUC 376 - 3
ST - Revitalization of Aboriginal Societies

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Wednesdays 17:30-20:20
Location: Harbour Centre (HC) 2510

E01.00

PREREQUISITE

60 credit hrs

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Currently Aboriginal peoples are participating in revitalization processes designed to save and restore their languages and cultures, to infuse their communities with health and education, to reclaim their traditional territories and rights to resources. This course will offer students an opportunity to learn about these initiatives and processes through studying the history, worldview and contemporary issues of Aboriginal peoples in Canada and other parts of the world.

The four major themes for the course are land, language, philosophy, and arts. Students will examine how each theme contributes to the revitalization process. Distinguished speakers, course readings, discussion, film and lecture will provide a venue for learning and understanding and sharing. Relationships between the four themes will be explored to understand how social change occurs. The course will also explore media coverage of First Nations people and cultures. Students will be encouraged to visit Aboriginal urban centres which provide programming for First Nations people and visitors such as the Native Friendship Centre, UBC Museum of Man, the Native Education Centre, etc.

OBJECTIVES

- To become familiar with the history of Aboriginal peoples in BC
- To learn about the relationship between Aboriginal people and their traditional territories
- To learn about the Aboriginal language movement around the world
- To learn about Aboriginal art and its renaissance in BC
- To study the worldview of Aboriginal peoples and the diversity of values, beliefs, and cultural practices
- To reflect on students' own attitudes on Aboriginal issues in contemporary society
- To critique and reflect on media coverage of Aboriginal issues

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Scrapbook containing clips of media coverage on Aboriginal issues with critical and reflective comments - 40%
2. Academic paper on class readings, lectures, discussions - 60%

REQUIRED TEXTS

Alfred, Taiaiake (1999). Peace, Power, Righteousness: An indigenous manifesto. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Highwater, Jamake (1982). The Primal Mind: Vision and reality in Indian America. New York: Meridian Press.

Kirkness, Verna (1998). Aboriginal Languages: A collection of talks and papers. Vancouver, BC: V. Kirkness.

Kawagley, A. Oscar (1995). A Yupiaq Worldview: A pathway to ecology and spirit. Waveland Press.

The Revitalization of Aboriginal Societies
Carolyn Kenny
Spining, 2000
Schedule of Class Topics

First Week

Opening by Bob George, Burrard Elder
Introduction and Overview of Course

Second Week

LAND: Treaty, Title, Resources and
Economic Development -- Guest from the
Institute Indigenous Government --
John McBride

Third Week

Discussions on issues of land from the
class readings

Fourth Week

LANGUAGE: Oral and Written Traditions,
Language and Meaning -- Guest from the
St:olo Nation, Director of Education, Ethel
Gardner

Fifth Week

Discussion on issues of language from the
class readings

Sixth Week

PHILOSOPHY: Guest Vincent Stogan,
Musqueam Elder

Seventh Week

Discussions on issues of philosophy
from the class readings

Eighth Week

ART: Guest: Red Thunder, Lee Crowchild
Contemporary Sioux Artist, Marilyn Dumont,
F.N. - Poet

Ninth Week

Discussions on issues of the arts from
class readings

Tenth Week

Lecture and Discussion on the Interplay
between land, language, philosophy, arts
in the revitalization process

Twelfth Week

Thirteenth Week

Class presentations, Assignments due
Feast