

Native Studies 1240 The Native Peoples of Canada: Part 2

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar describes this course as follows: A survey of the political, social, and economic situations of the contemporary Indian, Métis, and Inuit peoples of Canada from 1945 to the present. This course may include a field trip component. Students may not hold credit for both NATV 1240 (032.124) and NATV 1200 (032.120).

This course will introduce students to contemporary issues related to Aboriginal peoples in Canada, through an historical survey of their political, social, economic, spiritual and cultural situations from the 1930s to present. The course explores how colonialism operates in Canada today, and the present effects of the colonizing process on First Nations, Métis and Inuit. Student understanding will be guided by examining history, cultural anthropology, sociology, politics, law, and economics. The course will empower students to engage in meaningful dialogue about issues that affect all Canadians, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal alike.

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COURSE GOALS

This is Part 2 of an introductory course in Native Studies. The course presents an academic interpretation of how Indigenous people have experienced the past eighty years in Canada. Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

- Accurately apply terms related to the Aboriginal experience in Canada, particularly in the areas of law, culture, politics, and economics, and governance.
- Identify and reconstruct the components of colonialism and the role they play in transforming the lives of Indigenous people, their lands, cultures, and their communities.
- Examine Aboriginal peoples' social/cultural challenges and environmental concerns as interconnected parts of their experience as subjects of colonialism in Canada.
- Discuss how Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations have developed in the past eighty years.
- Interpret the interaction, alliances, and conflicts between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples over lands and resources.
- Identify and distinguish historical and cultural perspectives of various Indigenous cultural groups.
- Explain Indigenous economic loss and non-Aboriginal gain.
- Engage in respectful dialogue about current issues related to Aboriginal people in Canada, with an understanding that these issues affect all Canadians in terms of the future of Canada's resources, economy, and human rights and Aboriginal rights obligations.

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COURSE MATERIALS

Bookstore

The following required materials are available for purchase from the [University of Manitoba Bookstore](#). Please order your materials immediately, if you have not already done so. See your [Distance and Online Education Student Handbook](#) for instructions on how to order your materials.

Required

Burnett, K. & Read, G. (2012) *Aboriginal History: A Reader*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Dickason, O. P. & Newbigging, W. (2015) *A Concise History of Canada's First Nations*, (3rd edition) Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Kulchyski, Peter. (2007) *The Red Indians: An Episodic, Informal Collection of Tales from the History of Aboriginal People's Struggles in Canada*. Winnipeg: Arbeiter Ring Publishing

COURSE OVERVIEW

Welcome to NATV 1240 (The Native People of Canada, Part II). This course presents an introduction to interpretations of how Aboriginal peoples have experienced the past eighty years in Canada. This course is suitable for students who are being introduced for the first time to Native Studies, and to Aboriginal issues framed within academic perspectives. This course will highlight the socio-political and socioeconomic histories, realities and challenges affecting Aboriginal communities in Canada today. It will also position students to engage in fruitful dialogue around these challenges, within the recognition that all Canadians are affected and should be encouraged to consider the future of Canada's resources, economy, law, and Aboriginal rights obligations in light of Canada's colonial experience.

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TOPICS

This course will be divided into 9 units of study of varying length. Each unit will be completed within 1-3 weeks.

Unit 1	Introduction: A Background to Racism and Notions of Equality in Canada
Unit 2	Aboriginal Rights and the Law: Canadian Courts' Treatments of Treaties and Aboriginal Rights, and examples of Struggles over Land and Aboriginal Cultural Rights in Canada
Unit 3	Aboriginal Self-Determination and Self-Governance
Unit 4	Links between Environmental Health and the Health of Peoples and Cultures
Unit 5	Colonial Incursion into the North
Unit 6	The Métis and Prairie Nations: Repression & Resistance
Unit 7	Truth and Reconciliation: Residential Schools & Self-Governance
Unit 8	Aboriginal Labour within Canada's Economy
Unit 9	Aboriginal Women in Canada

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LEARNING ACTIVITIES

In this course you will have three major sources of information: the assigned readings (books and news articles), films, and the unit synopsis material presented by your instructor on the course website. They are meant to be used together in the following fashion:

Knowledge building through individual activity

You will be asked to complete a series of readings and film evaluations weekly. The readings include those assigned from your three textbooks, Internet articles, and the instructor's unit synopsis material. It is suggested that you follow the reading/viewing order the instructor has laid out for each unit. By the end of the course, you will have completed a research paper on an assigned topic, a comparative essay (comparing your research with a fellow student's research on a different topic), and two small unit assignments.

Knowledge building through collaborative activity

As part of the comparative essay assignment, students will be required to contribute to an informal "NATV 1240 Online Journal". Our "Journal" will only be made available to the class, the instructor and teaching assistants. For this assignment, you will be expected to "publish" your **research paper** either anonymously or with your name depending on your preference. You will then review the published papers and select one to use as the basis of your **comparative essay** in the final two weeks of the course by building upon your colleagues work. You will also be expected to participate regularly in **online discussion** forum topics in response to instructor prompts and peer comments.

Knowledge building through reflection

Each unit you are to complete different activities or answer specific questions within the unit that encourage you to reflect on the material discussed each week. Responses to the set of questions for one unit activity from Unit 2 must be submitted to the instructor for marks (see course schedule for due dates and possible units suitable for submission). You are also encouraged to incorporate your reflection into the thesis development of your research paper.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Distribution of marks

For each piece of work you will receive a percentage mark. The mark, as a portion of your coursework will receive the weighting noted below.

Evaluation	Percentage/Weighting
Unit Activities	15%
Research Paper	30%
Comparative Essay	25%
Online Discussion	10%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Grading scale

In this course (though not necessarily in any other course in the Faculty of Native Studies) the following equivalence between letter grades and percentages is used:

Letter grade	Percentage range	Description
A+	90 – 100	Exceptional
A	80 – 89	Excellent
B+	75 – 79	Very good
B	69 – 74	Good
C+	64 – 68	Satisfactory
C	57 – 63	Adequate
D	50 – 56	Marginal
F	0 – 49	Failure

Note: All final grades are subject to departmental review and approval. The grading scheme may be adjusted slightly based on grade distribution.

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ASSIGNMENTS

The assignments for this course are located in the Assignments section in the course website. Each assignment will be of varying format, depending on the subject matter concerned. The specific instructions for each assignment, as well as how it will be assessed will be presented together. Please consult the course schedule for the assignment due dates. Assignments must be submitted to the instructor by the end of the week the assignment is due. What follows is a simple overview of general assignment expectations:

Assignment 1 Unit Activities

Students will complete all of the questions and activities in **Unit 2**, but will choose one activity and submit those responses for grading.

Assignment 2 Research Paper

This paper will be submitted to the instructor but also "published" in the "NATV 1240 Online Journal". To start this task you will be assigned a topic from **Category A (land and environmental challenges)** OR from **Category B (social and cultural challenges)**. You will conduct research using materials from the course as well as external sources to present a well rounded argument that takes into account current affairs. The purpose of this research paper is for you to demonstrate how Canada's past is continuing to influence actions of the present. The conclusion of your paper will explain why it is important for non-Aboriginal Canadians – both long-standing and new Canadians – to examine these challenges as problems for all Canadians to work out together.

Length: 8-10 pages.

Assignment 3 Comparative Essay

Students with a **category A** research topic will be required to select from the 'Online Journal' any one research paper from **category B**, (and vice versa) to write a comparative essay. Through your comparative essay you should explain how Aboriginal perspectives on land and environmental challenges, and Aboriginal social and cultural challenges are related. This may sound daunting at first but by the end of the course, you should be able to see the connections clearly. Length: 6-8 pages.

Assignment 4 Online Discussion Group

Students will engage in a discussion about the Unit's contents and/or themes. The guiding question for each Unit will be set by the instructor. The student will be required to incorporate an aspect of an article or news item from his/her essay research into the discussion, so the group can practice analyzing current events as continually related to Canada's political, economic, and social history. Students are encouraged to use their discussion group to help each other (if necessary) clarify terms and/or meanings of items learned in each Unit.

Two thoughtful contributions per unit are expected.

Note: Detailed instructions about these assignments are found in the assignment widget in your course website.

Assignment due dates

Consult your course schedule and announcements for the assignment due dates.

Final Examination

The final exam will be written at the University of Manitoba (UM), Fort Garry campus or at an approved off-campus location. **Students needing to write at an off-campus location must declare a location by the specified deadline date** (see off-campus declaration and policy under Student Resources on course homepage). **Students writing at the UM Fort Garry campus do not need to declare an exam location.**

The Registrar's Office is responsible for the [final exam schedule](#) which is available approximately one month after the start of the course.

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PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, AND EXAMINATION IMPERSONATION

You should acquaint yourself with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation as detailed in the General Academic Regulations and Policy section of the University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar*. Note: These policies are also located in your *Distance and Online Education Student Handbook* or you may refer to Student Affairs at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/student>

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DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION (DE) STUDENT RESOURCES

In your course website there are links for the following:

- Contacting Distance and Online Education Staff
- Distance and Online Student Handbook
- Distance and Online Education Website

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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