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## Course description

The University of Manitoba *Undergraduate Calendar* describes this course as follows:

(Formerly 032.208) An examination of the subsistence organization, social organization, cosmology and ceremonies of Inuit from a regional and comparative perspective. While this course will focus on Eastern Arctic Inuit comparison will also be made to Greenlanders, Inuvialuit, Inupiat and Yup'ik. We will conclude the course by examining colonial history and the rise of Nunavut. The course may include a field trip component. Students may not hold credit for both NATV 2080 (032.208) and NATV 2000 (032.200) with the topic "Inuit Society and Culture." Prerequisite: [a grade of "C" or better in NATV 1200 (032.120)] or [a grade of "C" or better in both NATV 1220 (032.122) and NATV 1240 (032.124)] or written consent of department head.

This course provides an overview of Inuit culture and society, as well as examining the history and impact of colonization on Inuit of Canada. The entry point for exploring these themes is informed by Inuit understandings of themselves and the world, engaging with Inuit oral history as well as academic texts.

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## Course goals

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

- ♦ Locate and identify the regional differences among Inuit groups in Canada in terms of social organization and subsistence activities;
- ♦ Distinguish the unique Inuit worldview and indicate differences with Western understandings;
- ♦ Analyze selected Inuit texts and deduce certain principles of social and cosmological organization from these texts;
- ♦ Describe the history of Inuit/non-Inuit interaction and identify the processes of change in Inuit society.

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## Course materials

### Required 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.

1. Bennett, J., & Rowley, S. (2004). *Uqaluraiit: An Oral History of Nunavut*. Montreal, QC, Canada: McGill - Queen's University Press.
2. Stern, P. (2010). *Daily life of the Inuit*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood.

These books are also available via the University of Manitoba Libraries as ebooks, however to ensure that you are able to access your own book when you need it you should purchase an individual copy either in paper or electronic form.

## Course overview

### Overview

We will approach the material from a perspective that is appropriate to the Inuit understanding of themselves in their world. To do this we will examine three questions that Inuit use to identify a stranger: *kinauvit?* (what is your name?), *nami nunaqqaqpiit?* (Where do you have land?), and *kinamik angajurraqqaqpiit?* (Who is your camp leader?). While these questions (except for the last) may appear to be innocuous and very familiar to us, we must explore how they are answered and what those answers mean in an Inuit context.

The first unit provides an overview and orientation, covering terminology, pre-contact history, Arctic regions, language, stereotypes and Inuit Qaujijajatuqangit. *Kinauvit?* (units 2 - 4) considers social organization, kinship and cosmology. *Nami nunaqqaqpiit?* (units 5-7) links the discussion to subsistence, yearly rounds, including seal and caribou hunting. *Kinamik angajurraqqaqpiit?* (units 8-13) begins by looking at traditional leadership, and proceeds along a historical survey of contact with Qallunaat and colonization, culminating with the events leading to the formation of Nunavut and consideration of contemporary issues facing Inuit today.

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## Topics

This course will be divided into 13 units of study of varying length. Each unit will be completed within 1-3 weeks.

<b>Unit 1:</b>	Introduction: Terminology, archaeology, regional variations, language, stereotypes, Inuit Qaujijajatuqangit and oral history
<b>Unit 2:</b>	Person, Name and Gender
<b>Unit 3:</b>	Inuit social and cosmic worlds: Unikkaaqtuat (traditional stories), Angakku (shamans)
<b>Unit 4:</b>	Social Organisation: Kinship, adoption and food sharing
<b>Unit 5:</b>	Subsistence Activities: Living and travelling on the land
<b>Unit 6:</b>	Subsistence Activities: Marine mammal hunting (seal)
<b>Unit 7:</b>	Subsistence Activities: Caribou hunting, fishing (arctic char)
<b>Unit 8:</b>	Leadership In Inuit Societies: Inummariit "real Inuit", Isumataaq, Angajuqqaq, Angakkuq, leadership principles
<b>Unit 9:</b>	Inuit, Whalers, Traders, Missionaries and Police
<b>Unit 10:</b>	Canadian Colonialism in the North

<b>Unit 11:</b>	Making an Inuit Art Industry: history, economy, issues
<b>Unit 12:</b>	Road to Nunavut: James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, rise of Inuit Political organizations (1970s), The Nunavut Land Claim Agreement and the Nunavut Act, Nunavut Implementation Commission
<b>Unit 13:</b>	Contemporary Issues: climate change, food security, resource development and resilience

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## Learning activities

In this course you will have three major sources of information: the readings package, fellow students and the 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 for each unit, this includes the following possible items: sections from the course e-books as outlined in the schedule, articles from the University of Manitoba Library collection and external websites. You can read these in any order, however it is suggested you complete all the readings before commencing the other activities in the unit. You will also be expected to complete a research paper on a specialized topic of your choice and a case study.

### Knowledge building through collaborative activity:

Within every unit you will be asked to participate in a discussion forum group in response to specific questions posted in the unit. Your instructor won't comment on every post in the discussion forum as this is your space to explore ideas, but he or she will check in occasionally to answer questions as needed. You will receive participation marks for sharing ideas in the discussion forum, but the primary purpose for participation is to discuss course material with your classmates, to clarify your understanding and to develop writing and analysis skills critical to university success.

### Knowledge building through reflection:

Throughout this course you will be asked to share your reflections on the course material through the discussion forums. You will be asked to reflect more formally through the creation of a reaction paper that outlines your reaction to a particular film and how this fits with your views and understanding.

## 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
Reaction Paper	15%
Case Study	20%
Research Paper	20%
Final examination	30%
Online Discussions	15%
Total	100%

### Grading scale

In this course (though not necessarily in any other course in the Department 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

### Assignment 1: Online Discussions

Discussion forums are meant to facilitate a learning community. You are expected to contribute to the learning of the community, and reflect on the contributions of others in these forums. You will be assessed on both quantity of your contribution to discussions weekly in an ongoing dialogue throughout the week.

### Assignment 2: Reaction Paper

This paper is about your intellectual reaction to the ideas discussed in the film. You will be asked to write a reaction paper based on one of the films in the first theme. The intention of this assignment is to get you thinking critically about the material and connecting it to your own knowledge and experiences.

In the paper, you will explore your reaction and response to the film, tying in with course materials and external sources. The paper should reflect some thought about the film(s) and how they might relate to concepts we are covering in class. This is not a film critique or film review.

### Assignment 3: Case Study

This assignment asks you to take a closer look at differences between seasonal cycles and subsistence techniques between Inuit groups, because this is an important theme in the course. In this assignment you will be asked to conduct a case study on the seasonal cycles of two different regional groups. The Arviligjuarmiut (Netsilik) will be discussed in class, and you will be asked to research an additional group of Inuit and compare and contrast the hunting techniques.

### Assignment 4: Research Paper

This assignment asks you to write a research paper on one of the contemporary issues presented in Theme 3 in order to gain a deeper understanding a particular area, as the discussion in the class is broader. The instructor will provide a list of topics of which you will choose one and research.

**Note:** Detailed instructions about the assignment are found in the Assignment section in your course website.

## Assignment due dates

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

## Examination

### Take Home Exam

The final examination for the course will be a take-home examination. It will be posted in week 12 of the course. It will be due during the examination period.

The exact times and dates will be announced. The exam will consist of nine essay questions, of which you must choose three. You are expected to write approximately six pages in response to each question. Once you have completed the exam, please submit it online by using the drop box provided in your course website. The questions will cover all the material in the course and will be divided among a question on each of the "traditional" modes of life, the colonial encounter, and a synthesis of certain topics that appear throughout 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>

## 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

## Acknowledgments

<b>Content specialist:</b>	Alena Rosen Native Studies Faculty of Arts The University of Manitoba
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