Yukon University	Division of Applied Science and Management | School of Indigenous Governance
	FNGA 100 **Introduction to Indigenous Governance**
	Term: Fall 2026-01 **Number of Credits: 3**

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: David E. N. Silas, B.Sc.

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DATES: September 2, 2026 – December 2, 2026

PHONE: 867 456 6962

CLASSROOM: A2317

TIME: Wednesdays, 10:30 AM – 11:50 AM

CRN: 10002

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

FORMAT: HyFlex

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the foundations of Indigenous governance, with a particular focus on Yukon First Nations. It examines the history and development of governance and administration in Yukon communities, while also engaging with Indigenous governance systems across Turtle Island and beyond. Students will explore how concepts of ethics, accountability, leadership, and public participation intersect with Indigenous worldviews, self-government agreements, and traditional cultural practices. The course highlights practical aspects of governance such as legislation, policy, financial operations, and project management, while also critically examining reconciliation, ethical space, and decolonization in governance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are no prerequisites for this course.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Students who successfully complete this course will have achieved core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. By the end of this course, students will have greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination. For details, please see: www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at: https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit

TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determines transferability. Current transfer agreements include:

Institution	Equivalent Course
AU	POLI 311 (3)
UNBC	FNST 1XX (3)
UVIC	IS 200 level (1.5)
VIU	FNAT 1st (3)
UofA	NS 1XX (3)
UofC	INDG 311 (3)
U Lethbridge	MGT 3590 (3) or NAS 3590 (3)

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Define and apply foundational concepts of governance and public administration to Indigenous contexts.
- Describe the structures and functions of public institutions and bureaucracies.
- Compare governance in public and private sectors and analyze its application to First Nations governance.
- Identify legal, ethical, and cultural principles of governance in Indigenous settings.
- Analyze how political, social, and cultural environments shape governance and decision-making.
- Critically evaluate governance models through the lenses of reconciliation, ethical space, and Indigenous worldviews.

COURSE FORMAT

The course will be delivered in a blended format combining in-person classes and online learning through Zoom and Moodle. Students are expected to engage in weekly discussions, complete assigned activities, and submit reflections and projects on time. Participation, respect for Indigenous protocols, and active learning are emphasized.

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

Assessment	Weight
Group Discussions & Participation	20%
Governance-in-Action Reflection	10%
Post-Video Journals	15%
Video Responses (Padlet)	15%
Midterm Assignment	15%
Final Project (Governance Flyer + Presentation)	25%
Total	**100%**

Note: Detailed rubrics and instructions will be posted on Moodle.

WEEKLY TOPIC OUTLINE MODULE

Module 1 – Foundations of Governance

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment
1	Sept 2, 2026	Introduction & Course Overview	
2	Sept 9, 2026	Traditional Indigenous Governance	
3	Sept 16, 2026	What is Governance? Key Concepts	
4	Sept 23, 2026	Colonial Frameworks: The Indian Act & Systems Thinking	
—	Sept 30, 2026	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	*NO CLASS*
5	Oct 7, 2026	Body Sovereignty & Parenthood (Individual)	
—	Oct 14, 2026	Fall Reading Week	*NO CLASS*

Module 2 — Indigenous Governance Across Scales

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment
6	Oct 21, 2026	Relationships as Governance (Interpersonal/Collective)	
7	Oct 28, 2026	Game and Land Governance (Guardians and Stewardship)	
8	Nov 4, 2026	Data Sovereignty and Governance	
—	*Nov 11, 2026*	*Remembrance Day*	*NO CLASS*
9	Nov 18, 2026	Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow (Collective)	
10	Nov 25, 2026	UNDRIP and Governance (Rights and Responsibilities)	
11	Dec 2, 2026	Sovereignty Movement (Collective/Nation)	

Module 3 — Futures of Governance

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment
12	Dec 9, 2026	Final Project Preparation (Exam Block)	
13	Dec 9–16, 2026	Presentations (Exam Block)	
14	Dec 9–16, 2026	Presentations & Closing Circle (Exam Block)	

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates.

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

There is no required textbook. All readings and media will be provided online via Moodle. Students must have access to a computer and internet. Yukon University provides free access to Office 365, including Word.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Guest speakers, Elders, and cultural knowledge holders may join selected classes.
- Respect for Indigenous protocols and knowledge systems is required throughout the course.
- Students are encouraged to connect course concepts to their own experiences and communities.