



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
FNST 140
3 Credit Course
Winter Semester, 2014

FNST 140: TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

INSTRUCTOR: Mark Nelson, MA
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
OFFICE LOCATION: TBA
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COURSE OFFERING Winter, 2014
DAYS & TIMES: Monday Jan 6 - Monday April 14, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will learn about theory and practical techniques for supporting and preserving First Nations peoples' knowledge in the current era of constant cross-cultural interactions between knowledge systems. Students will learn about the role of oral histories, environmental knowledge, and spiritual beliefs and their role community research, co-management, and environmental management. Students will be asked to compare traditional versus scientific knowledge styles and how they interact with each other. Approaches to documenting, managing, and maintaining ownership and control of traditional knowledge will be reviewed.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

1. Discuss the concept of traditional knowledge (also known as indigenous knowledge, traditional ecological knowledge) and its importance in Yukon First Nations cultures.
2. Discuss the characteristics of oral history and its role in Yukon First Nation cultures.

3. Identify the importance of space and place in the worldviews and knowledge bases of Yukon First Nations people.
4. Compare knowledge in First Nations cultures with knowledge in western European cultures, including western science.
5. Examine the importance of traditional knowledge in modern First Nations governance and environmental management.
6. Describe various approaches and issues regarding the recording, management, ownership and control of traditional knowledge, including research ethics, data management, and intellectual property.
7. Discuss approaches to education regarding traditional knowledge, including traditional family methods, government programs and public institutions.

DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT:

This course will be delivered through direct classroom contact and by distance delivery. Distance classes will be delivered using videoconferencing and on-line resources. The course will be delivered through distance delivery.

PREREQUISITES:

Admission to the School of Liberal Arts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. All students will be expected to attend and actively participate in class and online discussions and activities, as assigned by the instructor. The material covered in the classroom is cumulative in nature, and missing classes may put students at a disadvantage. Participation will account for 10% of the student's final grade.

As per Academic Regulation 4.01, a student may be dismissed from a course if more than ten percent (10%) of the scheduled contact hours are missed. Dismissal from a course may result in loss of full-time status and loss of sponsorship funding (Yukon College Academic Regulations and Procedures, 2004).

Assignments

- All students are encouraged to contact the instructor with questions or concerns about assignments
- Requests for extensions to assignments must be made no less than three days before due date. Extensions are granted only for extraordinary circumstances.
- Assignments will not be accepted any later than 14 calendar days after the due date
- One (1) mark per calendar days will be deducted for assignments handed in after the due date unless an extension has been granted
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated (i.e. submitting other people's work as if it is yours).
- An incident of plagiarism may be considered grounds for failing a course
- All written assignments must be double-spaced and typed using Times New Roman in 12 point font on 8.5 x 11 size paper. Spelling, grammar and content organization are reflected in the grade.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:

Transfer/Equivalency/Accreditation in progress

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism involves representing the words of someone else as your own, without citing the source from which the material is taken. If the words of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to standard procedures (APA). The resubmission of a paper for which you have previously received credit is considered a form of plagiarism.

Plagiarism is academic dishonesty, a serious academic offence, and will result in you receiving a mark of zero (F) on the assignment or the course. In certain cases, it can also result in dismissal from the college. And do not underestimate the impact such a situation will have on your reputation.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR CHRONIC CONDITIONS:

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

Course Evaluation

Participation	Attendance of classes and participation in discussions (including on-line discussion forum)	15%
Readings	20 readings questions at 1 mark each	20%
Assignment 1	Research Ethics	15%
Assignment 2	Oral History Recording	15%
Assignment 3	Traditional Knowledge in YESAB Submissions	15%
Exam 1	Take home exam	20%
Total		100%

Grade	Grade Point Value	% Equivalent
A+	4	95-100
A	4	86-94
A-	3.7	80-85
B+	3.5	75-79
B	3	70-74
B-	2.7	65-69
C+	2.5	62-64
C	2	58-61
C-	1.7	55-57
D	1	50-54
F	0	Less than 50

SYLLABUS

Date	Topic
PART 1: IDEAS ABOUT KNOWLEDGE	
Class 1 Jan 6	The Concept of Traditional Knowledge
Class 2 Jan 13	Oral History and Cultural Identity
Class 3 Jan 20	Sense of Space and Place in First Nations Identity
PART 2: DOCUMENTATION & RECORDING	
Class 4 Jan 27	Community Research Methods and Ethics
Class 5 Feb 3	Documenting and Recording Traditional Knowledge
Class 6 Feb 10	Mapping Traditional Knowledge
Class 7 Feb 17	Intellectual Property Issues
PART 3: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	
Class 8 Feb 24	Western and Scientific Knowledge
Class 9 March 3	Traditional Knowledge in Co-Management
Class 10 March 10	Traditional Knowledge and Natural Resource Management
March 17	READING WEEK - NO CLASS
Class 11 March 24	Traditional Knowledge in Impact Assessment
PART 4: TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE IN MODERN INSTITUTIONS	
Class 12 March 31	Traditional Knowledge in Yukon First Nations Governance
Class 13 April 7	Traditional Knowledge in Educational Institutions
Class 14 April 14	Traditional Knowledge in the Arts

Class 15 DATE TBA	Topic TBA
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