



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
*Aboriginal Education and Community Connections*  
**INDIGENOUS STUDIES 116**

*Fall 2015*

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

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**1. Instructor Information:**

- (a) Instructor: Todd Ormiston
- (b) Office hours: Ewing 204 Mondays- 11:00am-12:00pm-or set up appointment by e-mail
- (c) Class Location and Time: WT 234HY-Mondays 12:00-2:50pm except as noted
- (d) Phone: 370-3122. Please e-mail if you cannot make a class.
- (e) E-mail: toddo@shaw.ca and Ormiston@camosun.bc.ca

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes:**

- 1. Describe the diversity of Indigenous peoples, cultures, and communities across Canada.
- 2. Describes strategies for healing, leadership, and revitalization of Indigenous communities in Canada and discuss implications of these strategies for their communities.
- 3. Describe Indigenous community based approaches to healing, influence, leadership, and governance.
- 4. Describe the concepts "colonialism," "decolonization," "Indigenous knowledge," and "self determination."

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*b. Specific*

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1. Research key topics using various media forms; books, periodicals, newscasts, key informants, the internet, and academic papers - using both Indigenous and non- Indigenous sources.
- 2. Understand and utilize indigenous ways of knowing, being, seeing, and doing.
- 3. Analyze and evaluate information from a cultural perspective; examining bias, accuracy, completeness and fairness.

5. Analyze and understand the social dynamics that have occurred to Indigenous peoples in Canada.
6. Describe and explain the process of decolonization and empowerment at the level of the individual, community and large Indigenous cultural groups.
7. Formulate a personal opinion and perspective on historical and current issues and policies and articulate that perspective effectively.

### 3. Required Materials:

- a) Course Text: To Become a Human Being:: The Message of Tadodaho Chief Leon Shenandoah and Course Pack

### 4. Course Content and Schedule:

Indigenous Studies 116 Course Plan – Topics to be covered

#### \*Sep 14

#### Introductions/ Course outline review and Creating the path

Vision of the course/ Meet and Greet  
 Opening circle  
 Special Guest: Bernadine  
 Review of expectations for journals and assignments  
 Group culture assignment handouts

#### Sep 21

#### Indigenous identity and Leadership

Traditional and Contemporary elements of identity  
 Definition of Colonialism/Decolonization  
 Introduction to Indigenous leadership  
 Group Culture Presentation assignment introduction

#### Culture

##### Understanding Culture

Consciously constructing your world view  
 Personal definition of culture  
 Material vs. non-material culture  
 How do you define 'The Sacred?'"  
 Culture as a key to the continuing strength of Indigenous people  
 Group Culture Presentation assignment introduction

- **Readings:** -Is Professionalism a Dirty Word?- Drew Hayden Taylor.  
 -The Consequence of Time's Circle on Cause and Effect.  
 -Seeking Life: Definitions of Religion and the Sacred by Peggy Beck.

- Readings:** - Indigenous Identity: What is it, and Who Really Has it?-  
Hilary Weaver
- Readings:** -The Failure of Native Leadership - Howard Adams

**Group sign up for Nov 9 and 16 Culture presentations.**

\*Info provided on 'culture' assignment

**September 28**

**11:30-3:00pm**

**Introduction to the Saanich territory-extended class**

- LÁU,WELNEW (Mt. Newton) and Cordova Spit walk
- Place names, creation stories and language connection
- Special guest Earl Claxton Jr. and John Bradley Williams

**October 5**

**Indigenous Knowledge& Elder reflections-SWEATLODGE@ Vic Underwood- 12:00 meet and into sweatlodge at 12:15-FOOD afterwards-please bring a dish**

**Readings: Cowichan: Ethel Wilson by Steve Wall**

**Readings : -Calling Creation into Our Family by Stan McKay**

**Readings: -Potlatch: Introduction**

**Outline due for 'Culture' Presentation**

**\*Oct 12- NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING**

**\*Oct 19 (Journal Due) (Outline also due for Culture presentation)**

**Racism/ Discrimination and Prejudice (this class ends at 3:50pm)**

Definitions/ similarities/ differences  
Confronting racism  
Healing strategies

**Guest: Chris Downing**

**Readings: Circle Works - handout in class**

**October 26-No class due to extended class for Sweatlodge and Racism day**

**November 2- Indigenous Education**

-What does First Nations Control over FN Education mean?

- **Readings:** -The Canoe Journey as a Methodology Dr. Todd Ormiston  
**Readings:** First Nations Controlled University Education in Canada by Eber Hampton

### **November 9 and 16- 'Culture' Presentations**

**\*Please note these will be extended days-12:00pm-3:30pm**

**Thursday November 26 7-9 pm- Indigenous Men/Women and wellness (Young 216)**

**No class November 23**

**Special Guest: Dr. Kim Anderson**

**Reading: TBA**

### **November 30-Self Determination**

**Readings:** The Politics of Hawaiian blood and sovereignty

### **Western Science vs. Indigenous Research/ Ways of Knowing**

**Readings:-** Re-Conceptualizing Research: An Indigenous Perspective by Todd Ormiston found at:

<http://www.fnfcs.com/pubs/vol5num1toc.html>

-Science and Oral Tradition by Vine Deloria Jr.

**Presentation of "The Leach and the Earthworm."** Discussion to follow

- **Elder Reflection paper due Dec 11 by NOON, stamped and delivered to Indigenous Education office Ewing 272-they will place in my mail slot.**

### **December 4- Feast and Closing circle**

#### **5. Basis of Student Assessment**

##### **1st Semester**

- 1) 15% personal reflection journal submitted based on three of the classes (due October 19)
- 2) 10%- Outline for Group Culture Presentation-Due October 19
- 3) 25% group cultural presentation- Presentation dates: November 9 & 16
- 4) 30% term paper- Elder Reflection Paper: Due on December 11

5) 20% attendance and participation-ongoing

## 6. Course Grading System:

%	Grade	Grade Point Equivalent
95+	A+	9
90-94	A	8
85-89	A-	7
80-84	B+	6
75-79	B	5
70-74	B-	4
65-69	C+	3
60-64	C	2
50-59	D	1

Minimum Level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.

## 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course:

The Aboriginal Education and Community Connections Department and Services, located in Ewing 272, is a valuable resource for you. If you are having difficulty with course content, registration, course selection, funding issues or anything that would get in the way of you being successful in this program, there are Aboriginal advisors and support people there for you to talk with. Please stop by the office or call Jeanine, our secretary, to make an appointment, at 370-3299, feel free to drop by my office for related information on any topics covered in class.

## LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

## ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

[www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html](http://www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html)

## **ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY**

There is an Academic Progress Policy designed to enhance a learner's likelihood of success. Students should become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

<http://camosun.bc.ca/policies/Education-Academic/E-1-Programming-&-Instruction/E-1.1.pdf>

**Please note that students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance and participation is noted so please connect with the instructor prior to the day of class if you are going to miss any time. You must be there for 80% of the classes. Assignments are due on the date shown above. All late assignments will receive a 5% penalty/ day (except weekends) unless arranged PRIOR to the due date.**