# INDIGST 1AA3/ARTSSCI 1AA3: Introduction to Contemporary Indigenous Studies

# Winter 2023 (2022-23)

# McMaster University

# *Course Syllabus*

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KTH, 637 Thursdays, 2:30 – 3:20

**Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:30 – 1:20pm (or by appt)**

**Teaching Assistants:**

TBD

This course is an introduction to contemporary issues facing Indigenous peoples and revolving around political, legal, economic and social contexts. Specifically, it will be an exploration of the relationship between Indigenous peoples and Canadian society throughout the late 20th century to the present with a focus on issues as varied as the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, land claims, models of governance, education policy, child welfare, reconciliation, among other issues.

## Required Texts:

* Courseware, Introduction to Contemporary Indigenous Studies 1AA3, Winter 2023
* Simpson, L. (2011). *Dancing on our turtle's back: Stories of Nishnaabeg re-creation, resurgence and a new emergence*. Arbeiter Ring Pub. **C**

**Consider purchasing this text from Indigenous-owned and operated (and local!) bookstore: Good Minds (**[**https://goodminds.com/products/9781894037501**](https://goodminds.com/products/9781894037501)**). Use Discount Code at checkout for free shipping: MACIE2023**

## Evaluation will be based on four criteria:

1. Midterm Examination (30%): The **in-class exam** will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. The exam will cover lectures and assigned readings to date. **Tuesday, February 28th, in-class.**
2. Critical Reflection Paper (25%): Each student will submit a critical reflection of the text, *Dancing on our Turtle’s Back*. Itwill be on due on **Tuesday April 4th.** This reflection should be approximately six pages in length (Times New Roman, double-spaced, 12-point font).

For detailed information on how to write a critical reflection paper, please look under the “Critical Reflection Paper: Information and Rubric” section of the Content tab on Avenue to Learn.

1. Reading Group Peer Evaluation (15%): Students will be organized into groups which will meet **on** **Thursdays in-class** throughout the term to discuss significant topics and ideas found in the text, *Dancing on our Turtle’s Back.* Students will grade each other’s contributions to these discussions. A grading rubric and evaluation form can be found on A2L under “Reading Group Information”. Peer evaluation forms should be filled out by **one member of the group, emailed to the Teaching Assistant, and cc’d to all group members by Thursday April 6th.**
2. Final Exam (30%) The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar during the examination period in April. It will be similar in format to the mid-term examination.

Lastly, students are expected to attend lectures, read the materials and be prepared to discuss themes, answer questions and demonstrate engagement with the readings.

## Summary:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Midterm Exam | Tuesday February 28th  | 30% |
| Critical Reflection Paper | Thursday April 4th  | 25% |
| Reading Group Peer Evaluation | Thursday April 6th  | 15% |
| Final Exam | TBD  | 30% |

**Reading Group Meeting Dates (***all take place on a Thursday)*

**February 2nd**

**February 9th**

**March 2nd**

**March 16th**

**March 23rd**

## A2L ON-LINE ELEMENT:

In this course we will be using A2L. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, usernames for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The

available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

# Indigenous Studies 1AA3 Introduction to Contemporary Indigenous

# *Course Outline*

## Week One – January 10th and 12th: Introduction to Course

## Indigenous Studies Welcome Social, Tuesday January 10th 2023

## Location: TBD

## Syllabus Overview: Thursday January 12th 2023 (in-class)

## Week Two - January 17th and 19th: Identities, Myths & Stereotypes

Assembly of First Nations, "AFN Fact Sheet- Misconceptions"

Little Bear, L., "Jagged World Views Colliding"

**Reading Group Instructions**

## Week Three - January 24th and 26th: RCAP & Justice

## Ponting, J. "Getting a Handle on Recommendations of the Royal Commission"

## Monture-Angus, P., "Lessons in Decolonization: Aboriginal Overrepresentation”

## Film: *Two Worlds Colliding*

## Week Four – January 31st and February 2nd: The Legacy of Residential Schools

Kelly, F. “Confession of a Born Again Pagan” pp 11-42 (From Truth to Reconciliation)

## Group Meeting #1, *Read Chapters 1 and 2*

## Week Five – February 7th and 9th: Guest Lecture

## Guest Lecture: February 7th

## Group Meeting #2, *Read Chapters 3 and 4*

## Week Six – February 14th and 16th: Indigenous Women & Midterm Review

Executive Summary of the Final Report: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls”, <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Executive_Summary.pdf> READ: pps: 9 - 38

**Midterm Review: February 16th; in-class**

## Week Seven – February 21st and 23rd: READING BREAK NO CLASSES

## Week Eight – February 28th and March 2nd: MIDTERM

Tuesday February 28th: **Midterm – IN-CLASS**

## Reading Group Meeting #3, *Read Chapter 5*

## Week Nine – March 7th and 9th: Understanding Land & Title Research

## Asch, M., "Self-Government in the New Millennium"

## McNeil, K., "The Meaning of Aboriginal Title"

## *Film*

## Week Ten – March 14th and 16th: "Education is our buffalo"

Battiste, M., "Maintaining Aboriginal Identity in Modern Society"

AFN, “Indian Control of Indian Education”

<http://www.afn.ca/uploads/files/education/3._2010_july_afn_first_nations_control_of_first_nations_education_final_eng.pdf>

**Reading Group Meeting #4,** *Read Chapter 6*

## Week Eleven – March 21st and 23rd: Child Welfare

Trocme, N. et al, “Pathways to Overrepresentation of Aboriginal Children in Canada’s Child Welfare System”

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, “Gathering Strength: The Family” \*\**Read 2.1 – 2.4\*\*\**

[http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/webarchives/20071211053441/http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ch/rcap/sg/si4\_e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/webarchives/20071211053441/http%3A//www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ch/rcap/sg/si4_e.html)

 **Reading Group Meeting #5,** *Read Chapters 7 and 8*

## Week Twelve – March 28th and 30th: Reclamation & Resistance Movements/End of Term Social

The Yellowhead Institute, “Land Back: A Yellowhead Institute Red Paper”. <https://redpaper.yellowheadinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/red-paper-report-final.pdf> READ: pps: 34 – 61.

*Film*

**End of Term Social: March 30th, Location TBD**

## Week Thirteen – April 4th and 6th: Field Trip

April 4th: McMaster Planetarium

April 6th: McMaster Planetarium

## Week Fourteen – April 11th: Reconciliation, Indigenization? / Final Exam Review

Gaudry, A. & Lorenz, D. “Indigenization as inclusion, reconciliation, and decolonization: navigating the different visions for indigenizing the Canadian Academy”

## Additional Sources:

* [www.indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca](http://www.indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/)
* Indigenous Studies Library (located in Wilson Hall, 1811)

## Late Policy

Late assignments will be penalized 3% per day (including weekends) to a maximum of 30%. Failure to complete all assignments will result in a failing grade in the course.

## SENATE-APPROVED ADVISORY STATEMENTS

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [*Academic Integrity Policy*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy-1-1.pdf)*,* located at [https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures- guidelines/](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-%20guidelines/).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

* plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
* improper collaboration in group work.
* copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

## AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

**Some courses may** use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. **All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld** (e.g., online search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster’s use of Turnitin.com please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](https://mcmasteru365-my.sharepoint.com/personal/rbishop_mcmaster_ca/Documents/www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

## COURSES WITH AN ONLINE ELEMENT

**Some courses may** use online elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses online elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

## ONLINE PROCTORING

**Some courses may** use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

## CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [*Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Code-of-Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities.pdf) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](https://sas.mcmaster.ca/) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [*Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Accommodations-Policy.pdf) policy.

## REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the [*Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Requests-for-Relief-for-Missed-Academic-Term-Work-Policy-on.pdf).

## ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Accommodation-for-Religious-Indigenous-and-Spiritual-Observances-Policy-on.pdf) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office ***normally within 10 working days*** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

## COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors. The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done either by the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

## EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.

## NOTES FOR ALL ARTS & SCIENCE COURSES

1. Some of the statements above refer to a “Faculty Office”; please note that the Arts & Science Program Office serves in this capacity.
2. It is the responsibility of students to check their McMaster email regularly. Announcements will be made in class, via A2L, and/or via the course email distribution list.
3. For additional information regarding requests for accommodation, relief for missed term work (e.g. MSAF), deferred examinations, etc., students should read carefully the [Requests](https://artsci.mcmaster.ca/forms-requests/) and [Resources](https://artsci.mcmaster.ca/current-students/resources/) pages on the Arts & Science Program website.