



INDIGST 3N03: INDIGENOUS WOMEN: LAND, RIGHTS AND POLITICS

WINTER 2023

**LECTURE:
MONDAY 8:30 – 11:20AM**

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**Office: LRW 1021
Office hours: Monday & Tuesday
12-2 or by appointment**

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Course Description

This course will focus on issues Indigenous women identify as relevant to their current quality of life and social wellbeing. Indigenous knowledge, women's ways of knowing, the impacts of colonialism, gender and methodologies will be examined. We will collaboratively choose some key areas/issues to hone in on at the start of term. Women and their roles in Indigenous communities can show the current state of the world if we know what we are looking at.

Questions to consider: What are the issues most relevant to your life? Food security? Land? Housing? Law? This question and how we will look at it will be discussed in the first class to solidify our focus for the term! Be ready to discuss.

Course Objectives

Create a conversation of the gendered issues that women live, survive and thrive in currently in the world. By the end of the course students should be able to identify issues that specifically impact Indigenous women and also the causes/history of these issues.

Learning outcomes:

- Understand the issues that women experience in the world and their context and history.
- Build a conversation to give voice to these issues and experiences.
- Relate the larger context of Indigenous women to our lives and how we can either improve or work to understand it better for ourselves.

Required Materials and Texts

- Scholarly journal articles will be provided for the weekly readings.
- Second half of the course, text will be provided via A2L by the groups presenting their work within 2 weeks of presentation date. IF not posted the instructor will assign readings.

Class Format

Meetings will be organized as a seminar with discussion and lectures.

Course Evaluation – Overview

- 1.4x one page discussions 20% (First due January 23) Due end of reading week.
- 2.Seminar leadership 20% (peer evaluation)
- 3.Final Research Paper or podcast 30%



4. Final Exam 15% Short answer.
5. Attendance/class participation 15%

Course Evaluation – Details

1. 4x one page discussions (20%), due date: ongoing

Choose 4 different readings from the term and submit a short summary of the themes, similarities and connections to the course.

2. Seminar Leadership (20%), due date: Sign up in first week of class

Students will be teamed up to lead one of the weeks discussion. We will clarify in the first week and sign up will be required by the end of week 3.

3. Final Research Paper (30%), due date: March

This paper will be the opportunity to dig into a single key area that is of interest to you. That may take the form of a larger theme(for example; gendered violence) or a specific person/people(women land defenders, or two-spirit land workers for example)

4. Final Exam-Take Home (15%), due date: End of term

Final exam will be a take home that will cover the topics covered in class through short answer questions. Short answer. Answer 3 (of 5 posted) questions-ANY format. 300-500 words per answer.

5. Attendance/Participation (15%) Ongoing on a weekly basis

Attendance will be expected as will participation. Remember your classmates will also be leading certain classes; be kind, courteous and willing to ask questions/comment for each other.



Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1

Monday January 9, 2023 – Course introduction

Readings:

- NO readings. Review syllabus, hold discussion and decide on final course outline

***Week one notes: Review syllabus, goals of the course**

Week 2

Monday January 16th – Women; rights, responsibilities.

Readings

- https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/marginalization_of_aboriginal_women/
- <https://cws.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/cws/article/view/37455/34003>
- [Indigenous Women and Knowledge](#)

***Week two notes:** A first conversation on Indigenous women and our history and themes.

Week 3

Monday January 23rd - Grandmothers and voices

Readings:

- <https://www.grandmothersvoice.com/>
- <https://www.theauntiesdandelion.com/podcast.html> “Skywoman was pushed”
- Wagner, S.R.2001 “Sisters in Spirit; Haudenosaunee influence on early American Feminists” (pgs 28-36)



***Week three notes:**

Week 4

Monday January 30th - *Land..back?*

Readings:

- <https://briarpatchmagazine.com/articles/view/land-back-means-protecting-black-and-indigenous-trans-women>
-

***Week four notes:**

Week 5

Monday February 6th - *Rights and responsibilities*

Readings:

- MATNM TEL-MI'KMAWI: I'M FIGHTING FOR MY MI'KMAW IDENTITY
Palmer, Pamela D. *The Canadian Journal of Native Studies* Vol. 33, Iss. 1, (2013):
147-167. (can be found in the digital library using Mac login)

***Week five notes:**

Week 6

Monday February 13th – Politics

***Week six notes:**

Week 7

Monday February 20th – *Mid Term Break NO CLASS*

Readings:



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***Week seven notes:**

Week 8

Monday February 27th – Indigenous Women and Artistry

Readings: February 27

Hello, we provided this link to provide you with a brief summary of Indigenous artistic expression. You can click on a few of the artists including one of our women of focus, Jamie Black, and acquaint yourself with some of the key themes and mediums of Indigenous art. Throughout our presentation we will develop off a few of the themes and delve deeper into the social advocacy intersection with Indigenous Women led artistry.

https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/artistic_expressions/

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***Week eight notes:** This portion of the course we will dive into the specifics of the women we are inspired by. This will be determined on the first week of class by agreement!

Week 9

Monday March 6th – Whomenz and the Highway of Tears

Readings: TBD

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***Week nine notes:**

Week 10

Monday March 13th – Food Sovereignty and Kiki life (Kitty RLynn**)**

Readings:

- Chapter 6, Our Soup Tells Stories (in book titled Recipes and Reciprocity)



***Week ten notes:**

Week 11

Monday March 20th – Group 3 Devery Jacobs; Queer Indigenous Film

Readings:

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***Week eleven notes:**

Week 12

Monday March 27th – Indigenous Wonder women Building Community

Readings:

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***Week twelve notes:**

Week 13

Monday April 3 – Last day of class

Readings:

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***Week thirteen notes:** Final Exam and course review



Course Policies

Submission of Assignments:

All assignments can be submitted (via email or in A2L drop box, by 11:59pm on due date)

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

2% per day will be deducted for all late assignments

Absences, Missed Work, Illness

Medical documentation will be needed for all extensions on major assignments. Example, annotated bibliography, final paper, or final exam

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, 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 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.

University Policies, 2020 - 2021

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, located at:

<https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

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. Avenue to Learn, 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., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster’s use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

Course with an Online Element

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn, 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 on-line 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](#) (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](#) (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](#) policy.

Requests for Relief for missed Academic term work

[McMaster Student Absence Form \(MSAF\)](#): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.



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](#) 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 by either 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, Avenue to Learn and/or McMaster email.

Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.



Course Modification

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.