



FNST-101 – First Nations Studies

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022
Course Outline Review Date: 2026-09-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course is an introduction to the multi-disciplinary field of Indigenous studies. The prehistory, history, and traditional/contemporary cultures of Indigenous peoples in Canada and their various perspectives are addressed. Additionally, the historical overview of Indigenous/settler relations and their effects are explored.

Program Information:

This course can be used as an elective in several University Studies programs. Refer to the College Program Calendar for additional information.

Delivery Methods: Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences, Humanities

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	

Other

Total	45
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Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Steckley, John L. and Bryan D. Cummins. *Full Circle Canada's First Nations*. 2nd Edition. Toronto: Prentice Hall, 2008.

Course Reading Package

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- identify, summarize, and synthesize historical and cultural perspectives of various Indigenous culture areas;
- engage in open and critical inquiry of cultural perspectives other than one's own;
- articulate a thoughtful and critical approach as to Indigenous/settlers' worldviews shaping the perceptions and influencing actions and relations;
- identify, summarize, and synthesize the critical events and cultural strengths shaping Indigenous societies in Canada today;
- apply principles and practices of sound inquiry through research, examination, and interpretation of sources; and
- research, evaluate, assess, construct, and properly document an academic argument and interpretation through various written assignments.

Course Topics:

- Origins and Oral Traditions
- Culture Areas
- Legal Definitions
- Effects of Colonialism
- Topics of Contemporary Debate and Social Action

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: Online

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Participation/Discussion	15%
Journals	20%
Major Assignment	25%
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.