



INDG-203 – Indigenous Ways of Knowing

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022

Course Outline Review Date: 2026-03-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course introduces students to concepts of Indigenous knowledges, worldviews and epistemologies through witnessing Elder teachings, insights from Indigenous scholars and experiences of Indigenous community members. This course begins with a review of knowledge creation and ways of knowing. It then explores the value, importance and uniqueness of Indigenous ways of knowing and pedagogy in comparison to Western ways of knowing and pedagogy through exploring questions that are important to Indigenous peoples, communities, and nations.

Program Information:

This course is required for the Aboriginal Education Support Worker program. This course can be used as an elective in several University Studies programs.

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

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 other BC institutions, please see <http://www.bctransferguide.ca>. All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in BC or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrollment 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:

All course readings available electronically.

Reliable high speed internet access is also required with the capabilities to view audio/video recordings online.

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:

- recognize the importance of learning from Indigenous peoples themselves (Indigenous Elders, Scholars, Researchers, Scientists, Community Leaders, Artists, Storytellers etc.);
- differentiate between Indigenous ways of knowing and Western ways of knowing;
- examine Indigenous research protocols, ethics, and methodologies;
- analyze the importance of Indigenous languages and language use, (ie. In the context of place names);
- reflect upon their own worldviews and ways of knowing;
- examine the ways that Indigenous knowledges are devalued within education formal education systems;
- explain the dynamic and evolving nature of Indigenous knowledge systems;
- demonstrate how Indigenous knowledge is transferred intergenerationally; and
- identify ethical issues and solutions for research involving Indigenous people and their knowledge.

Course Topics:

- What is knowing and epistemology?
- Differences between Indigenous and western (WEIRD) ways of knowing
- Indigenous concepts of education, teaching and learning
- Intergenerational transfer of knowledges
- The historical and contemporary devaluation of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems
- Language and its relation to culture
- Critical conversations on Cultural Appropriation
- Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and representation (ie. in music and art)
- History of Research in Indigenous communities
- Indigenous Research Methodologies
- Ethical considerations of Research with Indigenous Peoples/communities/nations

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
Reflective Journals (3 entries)	30%
Discussion Forum (Post on five total weeks)	25%

Final Assignment Proposal	10%
Final Assignment Concept Map	5%
Final Assignment	30%
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

Pass requirements: All assignments and evaluations must be completed.

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

Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Prior Course Code: FNST 103 >> FNST 203

Date changed:

January 2009; March 2021

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.