



INDG-203 – Indigenous Peoples' Ways of Knowing

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025

Course Outline Review Date: 2030-03-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This course explores Indigenous Peoples' knowledges, worldviews and epistemologies, identifying concepts from and through Indigenous Peoples' scholarship and experiences. The course includes a review of knowledge creation, while modelling the value, importance and uniqueness of Indigenous Peoples' pedagogy through course delivery. The course prepares students to explore questions that are important to Indigenous Peoples, their communities, and nations and that can enable research in support of Indigenous Peoples' cultural continuity and self-determination.

Program Information:

This course can be used as an elective in several University Arts & Science 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

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy [2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or 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.

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

- describe the role Indigenous Peoples' themselves (Indigenous Knowledge Holders and Language Speakers, Elders, Scholars, Researchers, Scientists, Community Leaders, Artists, Storytellers etc.) play in learning and ways of knowing;
 - differentiate between Indigenous Peoples' ways of knowing and Western ways of knowing;
 - examine and evaluate Indigenous Peoples' research protocols, ethics, and methodologies;
 - examine and evaluate research involving Indigenous Peoples' and their knowledge at an introductory level;
 - illustrate the importance of Indigenous Peoples' languages and language use, (ie. In the context of place names) as a cultural value;
 - reflect upon one's own worldviews and ways of knowing and systems of acquiring knowledge; and
 - explore Indigenous Peoples' use of multi-media as an intergenerational, dynamic and evolving tool for ways of knowing.
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Course Topics:

- What is knowing and epistemology? Indigenous Peoples 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 (i.e., 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%
Leadership and Participation in Discussion Forum	30%
Major Assignment (Literature Review)	20%
Final Reflective Project	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

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 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

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.