



**The University of Western Ontario**  
**INDIGENOUS STUDIES 2113**  
**Algonquian Language & Culture**  
**Fall/Winter 2022/2023**

**Tuesdays, 6:00pm - 8:00pm; Thursday, 6:00pm – 7:00pm, SSC3108**

**Instructor: Mario Wassaykeesic**

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:00pm: SSC 3213

Indigenous Studies, Office: SSC 1120

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### **Calendar Description**

Students will learn the basics of Anishinaabemowin, a particular North American Aboriginal language (e.g., Ojibwe) and will examine the relationships of that language to various culturally relevant concepts.

### **Course Description**

This course follows the *Anishinaabe* way of learning. Students will observe, listen, reflect and also participate in various activities using the basic Ojibwe language. Students' participation will be encouraged, as the Ojibwe Language activities will employ auditory, visual and/or kinesthetic styles.

Students will be given a brief history lessons of the Ojibwe-*Anishinaabe*; the basic language structure; its vocabulary; its worldview; basic cultural protocols; storytelling; total physical response activities; appreciating the philosophy of *mino-bimaadiziwin* (good life), and native contemporary issues.

Students will use the basic forms of the *Anishinaabe* language along with examining relationships of the Ojibwe language to various culturally relevant concepts. Students are allowed to bring their personal recording devices. Western University and *Anishinaabe* protocols will be respected and will be followed by everyone during all classes.

### ***Anishinaabe* Teaching Philosophy:**

Each person has their own learning style. There are various levels of educational achievements and personal knowledge that people have and that needs to be taken into consideration. People come from different backgrounds; the key is to be flexible and mindful of the learning process and varying learning styles.

The *Anishinaabe* method of observing, feeling, knowing and participating will be utilized throughout the duration of this course. Lessons will be based on the needs of the students as all educational processes are learner-centered. This type of educational philosophy is referred to as andragogy. Students will become aware of a

concept; they will struggle with their feelings about it; will build and establish a knowledge base and will act on or behave in a manner which is consistent with their learning.

### ***Prerequisite(s)***

First Nations Studies 1020E or Anthropology 1025F/G or the former 020E

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Students will experience an Ojibwe worldview through auditory, visual and/or kinesthetic from the Ojibwe language, often spoken throughout the course.
- Students will engage in the Ojibwe language activities, through listening, speaking, interactive practice, and also in written form.
- Students will develop an appreciation and understanding of Ojibwe language, as well as cultural teachings presented throughout the course.

### **Required Text(s)**

Ningewance, Patricia. **Talking Gookum's Language.**

Benton-Banai, Edward. **The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway.** (\*optional)

### **Method of Evaluation**

All assignments & presentation will involve the use of the Ojibwe language

Three Presentations (20%)	60%
Final Exam / Project	20%
Assignments	20%

### ***Evaluation Breakdown***

**Presentation # 1** (20%) October 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

#### **Introduction:**

Students will prepare a five-minute presentation, or monologue, on a self-introduction. Utilizing lessons, words, students will have the creative opportunity and freedom to express themselves through their vocal Ojibwe skills, addressing his/her fellow class peers of their name, from where, relations, etc., for example.

**Presentation # 2** (20%) November 29<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

#### **What I Did:**

Students will prepare a five-minute presentation, or monologue, on a day's event. Utilizing lessons learned from the *Talking Gookom's Language* textbook, students will be encouraged to use their creative abilities in sharing a little short story about themselves; what was involved; who was involved; what happened; how did it happen; etc.

**Presentation # 3** (20%) February 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Where I'd Travel to:**

Students will prepare a five-minute monologue on a presentation on where they would like to go; focusing on lessons learned from the *Talking Gookom's Language* textbook. Where they would/could enjoy seeing themselves going to.

**Assignments** (20%) ten in total

Students will be asked to translate a few Ojibwe sentences into English, which will be PART B of the assignment; PART A will include the particles, prefix/suffix, time marker, conjugation, plurals, negative markers, question, verb or transitive verb

**Final Project** (20%) March 30<sup>th</sup> & April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Final Exam** TBA April 2023

**How To Contact Me**

**Email:** [mwassayk@uwo.ca](mailto:mwassayk@uwo.ca)

**Office:** SSC 1120, Tuesdays; Office Hours: 5:00 – 6:00pm

**How to get important information**

**Important Policies**

You must follow all assignment instructions and codes of the university handbook (<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>).

***Policies for Assignment Deadlines:***

***A Note on Plagiarism:***

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:**

Students may be required to submit their assignments to turnitin.com on the class WebCT website after they are completed. These papers will be subject to submission for textual originality.

***Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class: ("clickers", if used)***

Laptops are permitted in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

### ***Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness***

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf). Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: [http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

### ***Accessibility Options:***

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

### ***Scholastic Offences***

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### ***Mental Health***

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western ([http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health/](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

## 2022/2023 Course Schedule:

**Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Introduction:

**Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 1: Learning the Sounds

**Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 1: Learning the Sounds

**Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 2: Playing Cards

**Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 2: Playing Cards /

Assignment #1

**Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 3: Being Weathered In

**Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 3: Being Weathered In /

**Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 4:

**Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 4:

Assignment #2

**Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 1, 2, 3 & 4 Revisited

**Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*Invited Guest #1*

**Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Presentation # 1 (20%)**

**Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Presentation # 1 (20%)**

**Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 5: Friends

**Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 5: Friends

Assignment #3

**Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

**READING WEEK**

**Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

**READING WEEK**

**Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 6: At Home

**Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 6: At Home

**Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 7: Visiting Gookom

**Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 7: Visiting Gookom

Assignment #4

**Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 8: On the Phone

**Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 8, On the Phone

**Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Presentation # 2 (20%)**

**Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

**Presentation # 2 (20%)**

**Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Lesson 1-8 Revisited

Assignment #5

**Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*Invited Guest #2*

**Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 1-8 Revisited

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

*Invited Guest #3*

**Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 9: Moving Day

**Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 9: Moving Day

Assignment #6

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 10: Washing Clothes

**Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 10: Washing Clothes

**Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 11:

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 11:

Assignment #7

**Tuesday, February 7<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 1-11 Revisited

**Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

*Invited Guest #4*

**Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Presentation # 3 (20%)**

**Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Presentation # 3 (20%)**

**Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**READING WEEK**

**Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**READING WEEK**

**Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 12: Doing Homework

**Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 12: Doing Homework

**Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 13: At the Hospital

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 13: At the Hospital

Assignment #8

**Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 14: At the Restaurant

**Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 14: At the Restaurant

Assignment #9

**Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 15: Houseguests Arriving

**Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 15: Houseguests Arriving

Assignment #10

**Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Lesson 1-15 Revisited

**Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Final Project (20%)**

**Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Final Project (20%)**

**Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Final Thoughts**