



**The University of Western Ontario  
Indigenous Studies 2501**

**Iroquoian Arts**

**Fall Term 2022**

**Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:30 / Thursdays 1:30 – 2:30**

Instructor: Dr. David Kanatawakhon

Office Hours: By appointment

Email: david.kanatawakhon@uwo.ca

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**Course Description:**

**Iroquoian Arts**

An introduction to the decorative expression of Iroquoian peoples, from contact to present, providing descriptions of manufacture and use with culturally relevant explanations for non-ritual and ritual applications. Students will have the opportunity to understand and appreciate the Iroquoian perspective through its artistic expressions in daily life.

\* Please note that for the 2020- 2021 academic year, this course will be taught virtually using “emergency remote teaching” methods. This means there will be no in-person classes on campus. Students are encouraged to virtually attend the class during the regularly scheduled time each week as there will be important discussions taking place during class; however lectures will be recorded and posted to the course OWL website soon after the scheduled class finishes. Students who miss a class accept full responsibility for working independently to prepare for the following week. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure they have the technology and bandwidth to successfully complete the course.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Students who successfully complete the course:

- \* will know and understand what constitutes Iroquoian art as a particular genre of artistic expression and its relevance.
- \* will be able to recognize an artifact or contemporary production as a product of Iroquoian culture.
- \* will recognize and know various individuals within the Iroquoian and contemporary world known for their expertise in artistic endeavours.
- \* will be able to appreciate the importance of Iroquoian artistic efforts in the contemporary world.
- \* will be able to describe and talk about and appreciate the use of Iroquoian design and symbolism within the past and present.

**Required Texts:**

The text material for the course will be provided online during the lectures which will be made available via Zoom.

**Method of Evaluation:**

1. **Test** on course content. **15%**

The student will be tested on the content of the first 4 weeks of the course. The test will be provided as a take-home to be returned to the professor at the beginning of the next class.

2. **Essay** – 10 tests @ 2% per test for a total value **20%**

The student will choose a topic from a list of possible topics provided, or they may provide one of their own which must be accepted by the professor, on which to write a 3,000 word essay. The essay must have an introduction, content and summary concluding with a bibliography of no less than five (5) sources. The essay may include pictorals, graphs, and photos relevant to the topic of the essay. The essay will be handed in to the professor no later than October 29, 2020.

3. **Presentation** – 1 project @ 15% becomes **25%**

The student will be given a list of possible topics or may choose one of their own preference, which has been agreed to by the professor, to produce a visual presentation that can be made to their classmates on a specific class date. The student will provide a verbal presentation to accompany the visuals explaining the content of their presentation. A list of dates for presentations will be provided from which the student may choose a date for their presentation.

The student must provide the professor with a short (100 words) description of the topic of their presentation.

**4. Art Project** (take-home format)

**20%**

The student will produce a piece of art reflecting the Iroquoian tradition. The piece may be a carving, pottery, painting, something beaded or embroidered, some utilitarian object decorated in the Iroquoian style, an example of “traditional” clothing, or even something contemporary, decorated in a way to appear Iroquoian (i.e. t-shirt with Iroquoian design logo, or anything else that relates to Iroquoian culture). Due to the nature of the class, the student will provide at least three (3) pictures, from different angles, of the finished piece plus a written description of the process of creating the finished project. The project will be made available to the professor for final presentation and evaluation on the last class of the course, Dec. 3, 2020. The student will retain their piece of Iroquoian art for their own records.

**5. Final Exam** (take-home format)

**10%**

The student will write a take-home exam dealing with the Fall Terms course content presented. The Final Exam will be provided to the student on the last day of class, Dec. 3, 2020 and must be submitted to the Professor no later than Dec. 9, 2020.

**6. Attendance and Participation –**

**10%**

The student will be made aware that participation is directly linked to attendance. This means that the student must be actively involved in the various course activities which may require whole class participation, small group participation or when working on one’s own. Always keep in mind, that if one is not in class, then one is not participating. This aspect of the course is very important.

## **Iroquoian Arts**

**Wednesdays, 10:30 – 1:30 / Thursdays, 11:30 – 12:30**

Weekly Schedule, 2022

### **Fall Term**

Week 1: Sept. 8

Introduction:

Who are the Iroquoians?

Where are they - past and present?

What is Iroquoian art past and present?

How is Iroquoian art and design unique?

Week 2: Sept. 14 / 15

Iroquoian design and patterns

Week 3: Sept. 21 / 22

Pottery

Looking at the archaeological record.

Pottery types and styles.

Contemporary Iroquoian pottery and pottery revival.

Week 4: Sept. 28 / 29

Wood and Bone carving

Archaeological evidence.

Use of bone for tools and ornamentation.

### **Takehome Test 1 on course content for Weeks 1 - 3**

Week 5: Oct. 5 / 6

Embroidery: Moosehair, quill, and thread

Finger Weaving: sashes and garters

Beads and Beadwork applications.

Week 6: Oct. 12 / 13

Iroquoian uses and significance of silver: past and present.

Week 7: Oct. 19 / 20

Baskets: their use, manufactures and distribution.

Week 8: Oct. 26 / 27

Clothing: past and contemporary

Traditional styles and adaptations

**Essay Due Oct. 28, 2020**

**Oct. 31 – Nov. 4 Reading Week.**

Week 9: Nov. 9 / 10

Stone carving.

In-class Presentations begin

Week 10: Nov 16 / 17

Painting - contemporary styles in various media.

In-class presentation continue.

Week 11: Nov. 23 / 24

Iroquoian music and dance.

In-class presentation continue.

Week 12: Nov. 30 / Dec. 1

Iroquoian play and theatre.

In-class presentation continue.

Week 13: Dec. 6 / 8

Course Review

In-class Presentation concludes

**Art Project worth 20% due: Dec. 1**

**Final Exam (take-home format) worth 10%**

**to be returned no later than Dec. 9, 2020.**

## **Important Policies**

### ***A Note on Plagiarism:***

Students must write the 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:***

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licencing agreement, currently between the University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

### ***Policy on Laptops and other Electronic/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.

### ***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 Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence (SRA) form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the [Senate policy](#) are met. Two important exceptions to this rule: SRAs will not be allowed for final examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has

already used 2 SRAs, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a [Student Medical Certificate](#) (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds).

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

[https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having\\_problems/Self\\_Reported\\_Absence.html](https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/having_problems/Self_Reported_Absence.html)

Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

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### ***Scholastic Offenses***

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:

[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://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html)) for a complete list of optionsd how to obtain help.