

Indigenous Studies 3104

Ya'teyehetiya'ks "Crossing the Fields"

Intermediate Mohawk Language

Fall / Winter 2022-2023

Tuedays 1:30 – 3:30 and Thursdays 11:30 to 12:30

Instructor: David Kanatawakhon-Maracle

Office Hours: TBA

Indigenous Studies Program, Office SSC-3214

Email: david.kanatawakhon@uwo.ca

Course Description: Ya'teyehetiya'ks "Crossing the Field"

Your introduction to Iroquoian culture and tradition through the medium of the Mohawk language began when you first arrived at the "edge of the woods", and now having acquired the consent of the village you are going on toward the village carrying along with you what you have learned of **Kanyen'keha** (the Mohawk way) and the **Kanyen'kehàka** (the Mohawk Nation), you will now be **Ya'teyehetiya'ks "Crossing the Fields"**, the next step in your continued introduction and acquisition of the Mohawk language, culture and tradition. As you move along the path on your way to the village you will see the various food plants utilized by the Kanyen'kehaka, and the activities they engage in to produce the foods that have been their life support for centuries. You will experience the various food gathering activities such as gathering maple syrup, gathering berries and roots, various edible wild plants, and plants used for medicines. You will learn of the seasons and the importance of the phases of the moon in planning the year's activities. You will learn of the relationship which the people have with the foods they grow and gather, and you will acquire the ability to talk about and describe the various agricultural activities and events regarding the planting, caring for, and harvesting of crops, gathering edible plants, nuts and berries. As well you will become acquainted with the seasonal hunting and fishing activities and learn an appreciation for the Mohawk perception of the world in which they live and their relationship to the land.

This course will be of primary interest to students who have successfully completed the Introductory Mohawk language Course: **Tsi Karhakta "At the Edge of the Woods"**.

* 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:

By the time you, the traveller, reach the village you:

- * will be well acquainted with the agricultural, fishing and hunting practices and become capable in describing and talking about these cultural activities in the Mohawk language.
- * will have learned about and understand how the people interact with the land and be knowledgeable of the differences in relating such between Western and Indigenous (Iroquoian – Mohawk).
- * will know of “**Tyonnhehkwen**” (the Three Sisters: corn, beans and squash) and the vital part it plays in the Iroquoian world,
- * will have gained an understanding and appreciation of the roles of men and women in the production and procurement of food, and in society in general.
- * will be able to describe and talk about, in the language, their cultural experiences as they crossed the field to arrive at the village.

Attendance and Participation

Active participation in a course like this is very important. Student involvement in group discussions and language practice sessions can enhance your learning experience. The more you use the language you are learning, the easier it becomes to use it. It can also improve your pronunciation and language skills acquisition.

Regular attendance is important to the class dynamic and your success in this class. Missing one class, especially the two-hour session can very quickly put you far behind. Arriving late, unless you have a valid reason or have previously informed the instructor of such can be disruptive to the class. The instructor takes regular attendance and arriving on time reflects a desire to learn the language and as respect for the course, the other students and the Professor. Remember, you have chosen to attend this course and it is up to you to maintain good attendance and participation.

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation method for this course will require ample recordings of the student speaking and using the language. In addition to the audio requirement the student will also be responsible for providing a written version of their work as it is backed up by the audio version.

1. Language Skills Tests – 4 tests @ 5% per test for a total value **20%**

The student will be tested on their skill at using the language correctly in conversational situations based on the topics provided, and through language use in response to question /answer exercises provided in a written format. The student will provide written answers in addition to an oral language presentation of their answers to be returned to the teacher on the date specified on the schedule.

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

The student will be provided with a written story to read aloud on a recording and questions to answer regarding the story which will also be read aloud. The recording and written answers of the story and the answers to the questions will then be presented to the teacher for evaluation on the date specified by the schedule.

3. Fall Term Language Project – 1 project @ 15% becomes **15%**

The student will be given a list of descriptives from which to choose 25 relating to different activities, actions and events activities and proceed to manipulate the description to indicate how it is expressed in reference to different aspects of time (i.e. future, past, etc...). Upon the completion of this aspect of the project the student will then produce a written and an audio version of their work.

4. Mid Term Exam (take-home format) **10%**

The student will write an exam, as a take-home, of the Fall Term course material taught. The exam will focus on both vocabulary acquisition and the use of grammar features and functions. The Mid-term Exam will be provided to the student on the last day of class in the fall term, Dec. 9, 2020 and must be submitted to the Professor no later than Dec. 15, 2020.

5. Winter Term Language Project -- 1 project @ 15% becomes **15%**

The student will write a story of no less than 500 (English) words, the topic of their choosing, which they will then provide in a written presentation backed up by an audio version. The final product will be handed in on the last day of class.

6. Final Exam (take-home format) **10%**

The student will write a take-home exam dealing with the Fall and Winter Terms course material taught. The primary focus of the exam will be the vocabulary and grammatical features and functions of the weekly stories provided during the Winter term. The Final Exam will be provided to the student on the last day of class in the winter term, April 5, 2021 and must be submitted to the Professor no later than April 12, 2021.

7. Attendance and Participation – fall term 5% & winter term 5%

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.

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).

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

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

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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

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options and how to obtain help.