

GSWS 2291G 001 FW2/INDIGSTU 2682G 001 FW23/AH 2634G 001 FW23
INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN THE ARTS IN CANADA:
CULTURAL TRADITIONS, SURVIVAL, AND COLONIAL RESISTANCE

TIME:

Tuesday, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
January – April 2024

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

One of the main objectives of this course will be to unravel how human beings become categories that expand beyond the seemingly binary divide between the sexes, the races and the have and have-nots. We will consider the real-life experiences of women or two-spirit peoples through an examination of texts from the fields of anthropology, cultural studies, feminist studies, and queer studies, among others. In addition, our examination of popular culture, such as films, television shows, music videos, and clips from the internet, will provide thoughtful, and often provocative, examples of the complex representations of race, gender, class, and sexuality in our society.

Antirequisite(s): Indigenous Studies 2682F/G, Art History 2634F/G.

Prerequisite(s): Indigenous Studies 1020E, GSWS 1020E, or 1.0 course from GSWS 1021F/G, GSWS 1022F/G, GSWS 1023F/G, GSWS 1024F/G, or GSWS 1030F/G, or 1.0 from Art History 1640 or the former VAH 1040 or two of Art History 1641A/B, 1649A/B or the former VAH 1041A/B VAH 1045A/B, or 1.0 course or special permission from Program.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor: Dr. Renee E. Mazinegiizhigookwe Bedard

Email: rbedard4@uwo.ca

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We/I acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ahpay-wuk) and Chonnonton (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. With this, we/I respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

<https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/land-acknowledgement.html>

STATEMENT ON GENDER-BASED AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE:

Western [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced gender-based or sexual violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency

contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. *Demonstrate* a clear understanding of important course themes, theories, people, and processes in the history of Indigenous art and creativity;
2. *Develop* familiarity with key scholarship and theoretical considerations of Indigenous art and creativity as forms of political resistance, survival, decolonization, cultural resurgence, and historical experiences.
3. Be able to *critically analyze* Indigenous theories regarding art and creativity, current scholarship, and cultural experiences as they evolved historically and have continued relevancy today;
4. *Enhance* written, oral, and analytical skills through course readings, discussions, presentations, and written assignments.

COURSE READINGS:

*** There are no required textbooks and readings in this course. The course will rely on lecture materials for the final take home examination. Videos, online catalogues, and websites will be reviewed. Traditional knowledge will be shared in the class that can't be found in books, articles or websites.

SUGGESTED READINGS (Not required):

1. Janet C. Berlo and Ruth B. Phillips. *Native North American Art*, 2nd Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998; 2015.
2. Thomas, Nicolas. *Possessions: Indigenous Art, Colonial Culture, Decolonization*, 2nd Edition. Thames & Hudson, 2022.
3. Mamers, Danielle Taschereau. *Settler Colonial Ways of Seeing: Documentation, Administration, and the Interventions of Indigenous Art*, 1st edition.. Fordham University Press
4. Morton, Erin. *Unsettling Canadian Art History*. McGill-Queen's University Press, 2022.

COURSE ART MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Tote to carry supplies
2. 3 pieces of 8"x10" squares of felt (Michaels Craft Store; Amazon; Dollarama; local stores). You can choose soft (or stiff felt if you do not plan to wear them – its easier to bead on)
 - (a) Brown, gold, (or whatever if you can't find brown)
 - (b) Red, black or royal blue for the moccasin vamps

- (c) Orange – orange shirt pin
3. Beading needles (get a contain to hold your needles)
 4. Beading thread or floss
 5. Scissors
 6. Bag or containers to hold beading supplies
 7. Painters tape
 8. Seed beads (Size 11) of a variety of colours
 9. 8x10 or 11x14 canvas frame (Dollarama Store)
 10. Floral cloth (Michaels; Walmart; thrift stores)
 11. Earring hooks (Michaels craft store; Dollarama)
 12. Paint brushes (need a thin outlining brush to do fine work; Dollar store)
 13. Glue sticks
 14. 3-4 Large round/smooth rocks the size of your palm

SCHEDULE:

Week 1: Introduction – Opening the Circle

Date:

Week 2: Indigenous Creation Stories (The Roots of Creative Expression)

Date:

Class Project: Beading 101 – Learning the Basics
(Portfolio Piece #1)

Week 3: Colonization and Indigenous Creative Expression

Date:

Class Project: Beading Moccasin Vamps
(Portfolio Piece #2)

Week 4: Indigenous Artistic Worldviews, Ethics and Philosophy

Date:

Class Project: Beading Moccasin Vamps

Week 5: Ancient Ancestral Creative Expressions

Date:

Class Project: Beaded Earring Making
(Portfolio Piece #3)

Week 6: Indigenous Beadwork

Date:

Class Project: Beading Moccasin Vamps

Week 7: Gathering Art Supplies off the Land

Date:

Class Project: Corn Husk Doll Making
(Portfolio Piece #4)

Week 8: Indigenous Feminism and Activism through Art

Date:

Class Project: Art as Activism – Message on a Rock!
(Portfolio Piece #5)

Week 9: LGBTQ2S+ Artistry

Date:

Class Project: Painting florals with Cloth and Acrylics
(Portfolio Piece #6)

Week 10: Indigenous Dance and Theatre

Date:

Class Project: Beaded Orange Shirt Pin
(Portfolio Piece #7)

Week 11 – Indigenous Music & Presentations

Date:

Class Project: Work Class

Week 12 – Indigenous Presentations

Date:

Week 13 – Closing the Circle

ASSIGNMENTS:

	ASSIGNMENT	VALUE	DUE DATE
1.	Participation	20 %	Weekly
4.	Art Portfolio	55 %	
5.	Final Examination – Take Home	25 %	
	Total	%	

LECTURES

Class lectures will be three hours in length. Lectures will include a variety of teaching methods: traditional lecturing, group activities, out of class hands on learning, storytelling, creative, expression, and discussion. PowerPoint slides will be uploaded to OWL before each lecture. The instructor does not share informal lecture notes. Students are expected to listen and take their own notes during each class. Attendance at lectures is mandatory and not optional. Note: Students that leave in the middle to lecture will not be given credit for attendance.

PARTICIPATION

It is **worth 20%** of Term 1.

	Components	Value
1	Attending Classes	10

2	Participating in Class Activities	10
	Total	20%

Participation means not only attendance, but also active engagement in the class and class activities. Students who miss classes or parts of classes are responsible for the material they have missed. According to the Western university [policy](#) regarding participation (See below), instructors are not obliged to review the contents of lectures, repeat announcements or retain notes, handouts or overheads.

Any student who is absent too frequently from class (or tutorials) for more than 60% of the classes (or tutorials), will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of Registration.

Absences from class which prevent you from participating in the course can have very serious repercussions. If you are deemed to be absent too frequently, which usually means more than three unexcused absences per term, you will receive an email citing this [policy](#) and warning you, that if there is no change in behavior, you will not be allowed to take the final examination.

Attendance will be taken at each class. It is your responsibility to notify your instructor that you will be absent from class. Cultural and Spiritual accommodations are respected at Western University - Please notify the instructor and tutorial leader in advance if you are going to be absent for those reasons.

<https://www.uwo.ca/languages/undergraduate/policies.html#:~:text=Any%20student%20who%2C%20in%20the,due%20warning%20has%20been%20given>

ART PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENT

This Portfolio assignment is **worth 55%** of your total grade. It is broken up into the following sections.

Upload to OWL in a Word Document or PDF; add to drop box. Submit both Part 1 and 2 as a complete Document.

Part 1: Photo Collage Report

The photo collage report is worth 25% should document every piece of art piece (7 pieces) completed in the course. Students will photograph each of their completed works in its final state of completion. Each image should behave:

1. A paragraph description (4 lines) describing the image content (what is in the image), title of the piece, date, materials used. Make sure the photo is good quality.
2. Put photos in a Word Document or PDF document.

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
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1	Portfolio Title page (name, student number, date, course code)	2mks
2	Content	5mks
3	Grammar	5mks
4	Style & Formatting (Times New Roman Font; Size 12; pages numbered)	5mks
5	Submission of 7 pieces	3mks
6	Quality of completed art pieces	5mks
	Total	25%

Part 2: Art Journal Reflections

This part of the portfolio assignment is worth 30%. Along with the photo collage report students will write 5 reflective journal entries for 5 of the 7 art pieces created in the course. Pick which 5 you found really meaningful to you. Each entry should highlight one individual art piece.

1. 2 page for each entry – 10 pages minimum in total. For example: “Beaded Orange Shirt Pin” will have one journal entry.
2. double spaced; Times New Roman font; point 12 in size; 1 inch margins.
3. Works Cited – for the lectures you are putting as citations; APA or MLA styles are acceptable.
4. Answer the following Questions in each Journal Reflection:
 - a. *What were your experiences in learning to complete this art piece?*
 - b. *What are the lessons learned?*
 - c. *What Indigenous knowledge did you learn?*

To prepare for this assignment, immediately write down your thoughts after the class. Take notes throughout the process, even photos. Document how you felt throughout the process, take lecture notes, or even record quotes from fellow students in the class that you think are notable. Put all of this content into your reflections.

***Upload the assignment to OWL in the regular Assignments submission area for the assignment, and also put a copy into the Dropbox.

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
1	Content	15
2	Grammar	5
3	Style & Formatting (Times New Roman Font; Size 12; pages numbered; name on document)	5
4	Submission of “5” reflective journal entries	3
5	Works Cited	2
	Total	30%

TAKE HOME FINAL EXAMINATION

Students will be given one Essay Question to answer. Students will write a reflective essay on the content and your experiences in the class using lecture materials and notes taken in class. (Length: 3-4 pages).

Rubric

	Components	Value
1	Introduction	5
2	Body of Content	10
3	Conclusion	3
4	Grammar	5
5	Style & Formatting (Times New Roman Font; Size 12; pages numbered; name on document); 3-4 pages in length	2
6	Works Cited – lectures; Quote or paraphrase at least 6 lectures	5
	Total	30%

GENERAL ACADEMIC POLICIES:

Use of Electronic Devices:

The use of technology is permitted as long as it does not distract other students.

Additional Statements:

Academic Offences:

(https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

Accessibility Options:

(https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

Grading: (https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/general/grades_undergrad.pdf)

Scholastic Offences:

(https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

Absences: ([https://www.eng.uwo.ca/undergraduate/academic-consideration-for-absences.html#:~:text=Please%20provide%20supporting%20documentation%20%E2%80%93%20course,MSE\)%20for%20review%2Fapproval.](https://www.eng.uwo.ca/undergraduate/academic-consideration-for-absences.html#:~:text=Please%20provide%20supporting%20documentation%20%E2%80%93%20course,MSE)%20for%20review%2Fapproval.))

Religious Holidays:

(https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_religious.pdf)

Student Code of Conduct:

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current Student Code of Conduct: <https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/board/code.pdf>

Student Academic Rights and Responsibilities:

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current [Academic Rights and Responsibilities](#) policies in the Academic Calendar. Such items include accommodations for students with disabilities, religious holidays, consideration for medical illness, academic appeals, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and code of student conduct.

See: https://uwo.ca/univsec//academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html

Academic Integrity - Statement 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. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the 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 licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](#).

(https://iesc.uwo.ca/student_life/academic_life/academic_integrity.html)

Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course:

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course.

Use of OWL

Western's OWL online course management program will be used for providing the final course outline and weekly schedule, completing weekly quizzes (using the Test and Quizzes tool), providing, submitting, and returning assignments (using the Assignments tool), communications with the class (using the Announcements tool), and posting grades (using the Gradebook tool). Pdf copies of lecture slides will be made available in the OWL Lesson pages after each class.

Academic Consideration for Student Absences

For students who have missed, or will miss, any course work, whether it be for medical related or non-medical related, please read the details and instructions on "[What is Academic Consideration](#)". No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

All missed work must be made up by the end of the exam period in the applicable term.

Accessible Education

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. Please see [Accessible Education](#) for information.

IMPORTANT CAMPUS LINKS:

Important Websites:	Links/Contact Info.:
Faculty of Social Science	https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/
Dean's Office	General Issues: social-science@uwo.ca Dean: socsci-dean@uwo.ca ; Tel: 519-661-2053 Academic Counselling: 519-661-2011
Land Acknowledgment	https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/land-acknowledgement.html
(Indigenous Initiatives) Tutors & Academic Support	https://indigenous.uwo.ca/students/supports/tutor-support.html
Western University Library	https://www.lib.uwo.ca/index.html
UWO – Citation Guides	https://www.lib.uwo.ca/essayhelp/index.html
Indigenous Initiatives	https://indigenous.uwo.ca/
Wampum Learning Lodge	https://wampumlearninglodge.uwo.ca/index.html
UWO – Indigenous Students Association	https://indigenous.uwo.ca/students/student-life/student-groups/indigenous-student-association.html
Human Rights Office	https://www.uwo.ca/hro/index.html
Pride Library	www.uwo.ca/pridelib/
Western Queer Caucus	queer-caucus@uwo.ca
Mental Health Support	https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych/index.html
Examination Policies	https://www.uwo.ca/arts/counselling/procedures/examinations.html

Art Supply List	
Beads	
bead	