Course Description: Tsi Karhakta “Edge of the Woods”. Here you will have the opportunity to enter into the Iroquoian World by experiencing their traditions and cultural philosophy through the medium of their own language. You are embarking on a journey of cultural understanding which will change how you view an Indigenous Culture and its traditions. Here is the beginning of your journey.

You have travelled a great way and now you come to the edge of the woodlands and before you are expansive open lands of agricultural produce surrounding a distant village. Here is Tsi Karhakta, at the “Edge of the Woods” where you would perform a ceremony from older times used to introduce a visitor before approaching a village. Here you light a fire to produce smoke in gain the attention of those in the village, and to then call out “Kon-weh, kon-weh”. This would introduce you a visitor (i.e. student) to the village, the centre of language and culture of the people within, in this case the people within are Mohawk, as called by the English, or better yet Kanyen’kehàka as they call themselves “People of the Flint”. From this point of entry you begin your introduction to the language of the people, Kanyen’keha, and the inherent culture it provides its speakers.

This introductory course will be of interest to students in any program on campus who are new to the Mohawk language and are interested in learning about Indigenous Culture and traditions through language acquisition, to those students who see the Mohawk language as an important part of their heritage, and also to those who wish to learn about the correlation between language and culture.

A variety of teaching methods will be used to engage students in this remote learning process, including lectures, virtual discussions, breakout chats, documentary and film, podcasts, media, guest lectures, in additional to regular readings from a variety of sources.

* 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.
Pre-requisite(s): Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 0.5 or 1.0 Essay course.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event you are dropped from the course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Anti-requisite(s): The former First Nations Studies 2112.

Learning Outcomes: By the end of this part of the journey the traveller (i.e., you the student) will be able to use the Mohawk language to:

- Introduce yourself to others, describe yourself and those around you;
- Talk about and describe the world of which you are a part;
- Describe and refer to the time when something occurs;
- Recognize, explain, and appreciate some Indigenous (Iroquoian – Mohawk) traditions and cultural experiences;
- See the world from a different perspective by relying on your experiences during this part of the trip.

Required Texts/Readings: To be determined.

Methods of Evaluation (DRAFT only)

1. Weekly Vocabulary Assessment --15%
2. Language Skills Tests -- 20%
3. Fall Term Language Project -- 15%
4. Winter Term Language Project -- 20%
5. Culture and Tradition Appreciation -- 15%
6. Attendance and Participation -- 15%

Note: There will be no Final Exam for this course as the total evaluation will be based on the Language skills and vocabulary testing, culture and tradition awareness, and end of term presentations.

Course Schedule and Readings

To be determined.

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines

All written assignments are to be submitted electronically to the instructor and are due at the start of class on the assigned date. A 5% deduction per day will apply to late papers, including papers submitted after class has started. Please see the Instructor in advance of the due date, if an extension is required. Further information on “Missed Work” is below.
Assignment objectives and rubrics will be posted on OWL, as well as discussed in class via Zoom. Should you have a concern regarding the grade you received for an assignment, you must wait 24 hours from the receipt of the grade (on OWL) to contact the instructor. In doing so, please make an appointment and prepare in writing, with evidence, why you feel your grade is inappropriate. Please be aware that in requesting a grade reassessment, your grade could go up/down/or stay the same. Note that calculations errors (which do occur!) should be brought to my attention immediately.

**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)

**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**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review 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 licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

**Policies on Examinations**

No electronic devices of any kind are allowed during tests and examinations.
**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 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

**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: 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 on how to obtain help.