



The University of Western Ontario

Indigenous Studies 3104

Ya'teyehehtiya'ks "*Crossing the Fields*"

Intermediate Mohawk Language

Fall / Winter 2020-2021

Lecture (Via Zoom) Mondays 12:30 – 2:30 and Wednesdays 12:30 to 1:30

Instructor: Dr. David Kanatawakhon

Office Hours (via Zoom) by appointment

Email: david.kanatawakhon@uwo.ca

Course Description:

Ya'teyehehtiya'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'kehaka** (the Mohawk Nation), you will now be **Ya'teyehehtiya'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:

Students who successfully complete the course:

- * 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 “**Tyonnehkwen**” (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.

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. 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 an 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 Test (take-home format) **10%**

The student will write a test, as a take-home, of the Fall Term course material taught. The test will focus on both vocabulary acquisition and the use of grammar features and functions. The mid-term test 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. The completed test will consist of the written answers and an audio recording in Mohawk of the answers.

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 in Mohawk. The final product will be handed in on the last day of class.

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

The student will write a take-home assignment dealing with the Fall and Winter Terms course material taught. The primary focus of the assignment will be the vocabulary and grammatical features and functions of the weekly stories provided during the Winter term. The Final Assignment 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. The completed assignment will consist of the written answers and an audio recording in Mohawk of the answers.

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.

INTERMEDIATE MOHAWK

Weekly Schedule, 2020 – 2021

Mondays 1:30 – 3:30, Wednesdays 12:30 – 1:30

Fall Term

Sept. 9, Wed.

Introduction to Course and Material

Week 1: Sept. 14, 16

Review of Course 2104 Material

Week 2: Sept. 21, 23

Introducing Animate Nominals and related vocabulary: I have...; a good...; a bad...; a smart..., etc...
Also plural references and related pronominal references.

Week 3: Sept. 28, 30

Inanimate Nominals, vocabulary referring to things and related vocabulary: I have...; I bought...; I found...; etc...; Also some locative references: on the...; under the...; beside the.... And some descriptives indicating location: up on the, standing, laying, etc...

Week 4: Oct. 5, 7

Looking at Prefix **t(e)**- (*referring to two of something or a change in place and movement*) and relevant descriptive which require it.

Looking at Reversive Suffix features: **-kw**, **-hsy(on)**.

Language Skills Test 1: *on Animate and Inanimate vocabulary as introduced and reviewed in Weeks 1, 2, and 3.. Test 1 is worth 5%.*

Week 5: Oct. 12, 14

Looking at Prefix **s(e)**- (*again, back*); and combination **t(e)s(e)**-, and relevant descriptive vocabulary where it could be used.

Looking at Distributive Suffix features (*a pluralizing element attached to descriptives*): **-hon**; **-nyon**, **-hseron**,

Week 6: Oct. 19, 21

Looking at Prefix **t(i)-** (*movement from there to here; over there*); and combination **t(e)t(i)-**, and relevant descriptive vocabulary where it could be used.

Looking at Benefactive Suffix features (*doing for*): **-ani, -enni, -'se, -wi, -ni**. And the shape of the word final syllables they are attached to.

Language Skills Test 2 on Prefixes **t(e)-**, and **s(e)-**; and Reversive and Distributive Suffixes and any other material dealt with in Weeks 4 and 5.. Test 2 is worth **5%**.

Week 7: Oct. 26, 28

Looking at Prefix **y(e)-** (*indicating movement from here to there*); and combination **ya't(e)-** and **ya't(e)s(e)-**.

Looking at Purposive Suffix features (*going to*): **-h(e)-, -(h)r(e), (h)n(e)-, -hser(e)**.

Nov. 2 – 8 Reading Week.

Week 8: Nov. 9, 11

Looking at Prefix **th(i)- / tha't(e)-** (*referring to some action or activity deemed odd or unusual*) and Combinations

Fall Term Project Introduced: Will be a English to Mohawk translation of a short story provided which will deal with the vocabulary and grammar functions introduced during the Fall Term. Fall Project worth **15%** .

Language Skills Test 3 on Prefixes: **t(i)-**, and **y(e)-**; and Benefactive and Purposive Suffixes and any other material dealt with in Weeks 6 and 7... Test 3 is worth **5%**.

Week 9: Nov. 16, 18

Looking at Prefix **sh(i)- / sha't(e)-** (*referring to some actions or activities co-occurring; or a reference to when something occurred*) and Combinations

Week 10: Nov. 23, 25

Looking at Prefix **n(i)- / na't(e)-** (*indicating a numerical or conditional aspect to the action or activity*) and Combinations

Week 11: Nov. 31, Dec. 2

Looking at Spatial (*where*) and Temporal (*when*) reference vocabulary

Language Skills Test 4 on prefixes: **th(i)-, sh(i)-, and n(i)-** and any other material dealt with in Weeks 8, 9 and 10... Test 4 is worth **5%**.

Week 12: Dec. 7, 9

Fall Course Review

Fall Project worth 15% due: Dec. 9

Mid-Term Test (take-home format) worth 10%

Christmas Break

Winter Term Begins – Jan. 11, 2021

Week 13: Jan. 11th & 13th, 2021.

Review of First Term Vocabulary and Grammatical Functions.

Winter Term Project Introduced: To be a story of one's own creation to be written out and presented orally consisting of no less than 500 Mohawk words incorporating all or most of the grammatical features and vocabulary presented in this course. **Winter Project worth 15%.**

Week 14: Jan. 18th & 20th, 2021. **Daily activities:** “*Time to Get Up and Go*”.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 1: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2 %**.

Week 15: Jan. 25th & 27th, 2021. **Cooking:** “*What is There to Cook?*”.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 2: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 16: Feb. 1st & 3rd, 2021. **House work:** “*Time to Clean House*”.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 3: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2 %**.

Week 17: Feb. 8th & 10th, 2021. **Gardening:** “*What's in the Garden*”.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 4: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 18: Feb. 15th & 17th, 2021. **Playing:** *“Playing in the Back Yard”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 5: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Winter Term Reading Week: February 13 – 21, 2021

Week 19: Feb. 22th & 24th, 2021. **Shopping:** *“Time to Go Shopping”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 6: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 20: Mar. 1st & 3rd, 2021. **Fishing / Hunting:** *“There is always Time to Fish and Hunt”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 7: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 21: Mar. 8th & 10th, 2021. **A Walk in the Woods:** *“Let’s Go See What’s in the Woods”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 8: to be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 22: Mar. 15st & 17rd, 2021. **A Walk along the River:** *“I love Walking Along the River”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 9: To be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 23: Mar. 22th & 24th, 2021. **A Walk through Town:** *“A Trip to the Nearby Town”*.

This story will be presented in class with an over-view of the vocabulary and grammatical features involved.

Comprehension Test 10: To be taken home and completed with the answers provided in an audio and written format. Worth **2%**.

Week 24: Mar. 29st & 31st, 2021. Review of Winter Term Course Material.

Winter Project worth 15% due: April 1, 2021 15%

Week 25: Apr. 5 & 7, 2021. Fall Term and Winter Term Course Material Review.

Week 26: Apr. 12, 2021. Continuation of Course Material Review.

Course Material Comprehension Assignment Due April 12, 2021 10%

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 licensing agreement, currently between the University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

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 of how to obtain help.