

Indigenous Studies 3104

Ya'teyehehtiya'ks "Crossing the Fields"

Intermediate Mohawk Language

Fall / Winter 2021-2022

Wednesdays 10:30 – 12:30 (in-class) and Thursdays 11:30 to 12:30 (online)

Instructor: Dr. David Kanatawakhon

Office Hours 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'kehàka** (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 2021- 2022 academic year, this course will be taught using a “blended” method. This means there will both in-class lectures and lectures via Zoom each week of the course . With this particular 3 hour class, students will attend two (2) hours of in-class instruction and one (1) hours of course material instruction via Zoom. Students are encouraged to virtually

attend the one hour Zoom class during the regularly scheduled time each week as there will be important language material presented during that time. Lectures for the one hour class will be recorded and posted to the course OWL website soon after the scheduled class finishes. Students who miss any class, in-class or online, 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 “**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.

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** – 5 tests @ 4% 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. 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.

5. 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. The completed exam will consist of the written answers and an audio recording in Mohawk of the answers.

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. The completed exam 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.

Important Policies

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.

Policies for Assignment Deadlines

All projects and take-home tests assigned 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 “Academic Consideration for Missed Work” is below.

Project objectives and rubrics, as well as assigned tests will be posted on OWL, as well as discussed in during in-class sessions and via online (Zoom) sessions. Should you have a concern regarding the grade you received for a tests or project, 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 experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements must submit a request for academic consideration through the appropriate route:

- (i) For **absences 48 hours or less**, students can complete a [Self-Reported Absence \(SRA\)](#) form provided the conditions specified in the [Senate policy](#) are met. The form [can be completed online](#). The SRA can be used only twice. Please note the important exceptions to this rule:
 - i. Not permitted for final exams or assessments worth more than 30% of a course.
- (ii) 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 a course, 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). Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

- (iii) All of the Faculty of Social Science Academic Counselling procedures can be found here: <https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/index.html>

Students seeking academic consideration:

- Are advised to consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying handing in work.
- Are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances, recognizing that minor ailments (upset stomach) or upsets (argument with a friend) are not normally an appropriate basis for a self-reported absence.
- **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.**

Academic consideration is not normally intended for the following circumstances:

- **Students with an ongoing physical illness or mental disorder (recurring or chronic) or an existing disability** are responsible for determining, in consultation with their doctors or other health professionals, if they are capable of pursuing their studies and, if so, with what accommodations. Students are expected to seek and arrange reasonable accommodations with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible in accordance with the [Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disability](#). Students with pre-existing accessibility plans arranged through SAS may not need to provide additional documentation when seeking academic consideration where such request for consideration relates to their disability and where their accessibility plans allow for coursework deferral or deadline extensions.
- **Students who experience high levels of stress related to academic performance** (including completing assignments, taking part in presentations, or writing tests or examinations). Students with academic or exam stress should access supports through [Student Health and Wellness](#) and [Learning Development & Success](#) in order to deal with this stress in a proactive and constructive manner.

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences (including plagiarism) 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

Policies on Examinations

No electronic devices of any kind or written aids are allowed during tests and examinations unless the Professor has indicated that such can be allowed.

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

Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources at Western to assist you. Please visit the [Mental Wellbeing website](#) for more information on mental health resources.

IS 3104 Introductory Mohawk

2021 - 2022

Wednesdays 10:30 – 12:30 (in-class), Thursdays 11:30 – 12:30 (online)

Fall Term:

Sept. 8, 9

Week 1: Introduction to **Kanyen'keha**

Learning Descriptive Roots and Creating Commands

Sept. 15, 16

Week 2: Introduction to Pronominals Prefix Series I: **Someone to Something**.

Extending Commands and Creating Imperatives

Sept. 22, 23

Week 3: Introducing: The Serial

Creating Simple Descriptive Phrases

Introducing: Negative **Yah te-**

Using Questions **ken, oh nahòten, onhka**

Introducing Animate Nominals referring to living things to use with Descriptive Phrases.

Vocabulary & Language Skills: Test 1, on Animate and Inanimate vocabulary, Commands, Imperatives and Simple Descriptive Phrases as introduced in Weeks 1, 2, and 3.. Test 1 is worth **4%**.

Sept. 29, 30

Week 4: Introducing: The Completive:

1. Using prefix **en-**

Expressions to use with prefix **en-**

2. Introducing prefix **a-/ae-**

Expressions to use with prefix **a-/ae-**

Using Negative Feature **Yah th-** with prefix **a-/ae-**

Introducing and Using Descriptive **-ehre**.

Introducing Inanimate Nominals: vocabulary referring to things and objects

Oct. 6, 7

Week 5: Using Prefix **wa'** / **wa** / **-we**

Expressions to use with prefix **wa'** / **wa** / **we**-

Introducing Questions: **oh niyotyeren: ka' nonwe: katke: ka' nikayen.**

Introducing: some locative references: on the...; under the...; beside the...: some descriptives indicating location: up on the, standing, laying, etc.,

Language & Language Skills: Test 2, on the *Completive and associated vocabulary as introduced in Weeks 4 & 5*. Test 2 is worth **4%**.

Thanksgiving: October 11, 2021

Oct. 20 , 21

Week 6: Descriptive Roots and Their Ending Patterns

Creating Simple Descriptive Phrases

Descriptive Phrases using Endings: **-hkwe'** / **-hne'** and **-ke'**

The Completive -'

Descriptive Phrases using: **en-**, **a-/ae-**, **wa'** / **wa** / **we**-

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

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.

Language & Language Skills: Test 3, on *Descriptive Roots and Ending Patterns as introduced in Week 6*. Test 3 is worth **4%**.

Oct. 27, 28

Week 7: The Habitual **-ha'**

Using Prefix-Suffix Features **-hkwe'** / **-hne'**, **en-...-ke'** / **a-...-ke'**

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

Fall Term Reading Week: November 1 – 7, 2021

Nov. 10, 11

Week 8: Introducing Stative Descriptives

Pronominal Prefixes II: *Something to Someone*

Nov. 17, 18

Week 9: Descriptive Roots Requiring Endings: **-ha'**, **-e'** / **-en'**, **-onh** / **eh**

Looking at Suffix Features:

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

Looking at Distributive Suffix features: **-on**, **-hon**, **-ny(on)**, **-ha'ton**.

The Purposive (*going to*): **-h(e)-**, **-(h)r(e)**, **(h)n(e)-**, **-hser(e)**.

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 4 on Stative Descriptives and Pronominal Prefixes II as introduced in Weeks 8 & 9. Test 4 is worth **4%**.

Nov. 24, 25

Week 10: Looking at **Pronominal Prefixes III: Someone to someone**

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

Dec. 1, 2

Week 11: Looking at Prefix Features:

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

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

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

Language Skills Test 5 on Pronominal Prefixes III, Benefactive Suffixes and associated Stative and Active situations as introduced in 10 & 11 ... Test 5 is worth **4%**.

Dec. 7, 8

Week 12:

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

Fall Project worth 15% due: Dec. 8

Mid-Term Take-home Exam worth 10%

Handed out Dec. 8, 2021 - to be returned no later than Dec. 14, 2021.

Dec. 3 End of Fall Classes

Winter Term Begins – Jan. 4, 2022

Jan. 5, 6

Week 14: . **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.

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%.**

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

Jan. 12, 13

Week 15: **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%.**

Jan. 19, 20

Week 16: **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 %**.

Jan. 26, 27

Week 17: . **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%**.

Feb. 2, 3

Week 18: **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%**.

Feb. 9, 10

Week 19: **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%**.

Winter Term Reading Week: February 19 – 27, 2022

Mar. 2, 3

Week 20: : **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%**.

Mar. 9, 10

Week 21: **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%**.

Mar. 16, 17

Week 22: : **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%**.

Mar. 23, 24

Week 23: **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%**.

Mar. 30, Apr. 1

Week 24: Review of Course Material.

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

**Final Exam (take-home format) worth 10% handed out
to be returned no later than April 12, 2021.**