

INDIGSTU 4903G - INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND METHOD

TIME:

Tuesday, 9:30 am – 12:30pm

January – April 2024

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This advanced course examines the critical issues and tensions of doing research with and for Indigenous peoples. Themes will include Indigenous methodologies (including but not limited to oral histories), and decolonizing research.

3 lecture hours, 0.5 course

Antirequisite(s): N/A

Prerequisite(s): Registration in any third or fourth year program.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. *Demonstrate* a clear understanding of the historical and contextual issues (including the intersections between White Supremacy, hetero-patriarchy, and neo-liberalism) that have and continue to shape the evolution of post-colonial Indigenous research methodologies globally, the philosophies and agency-imperatives that underlie their emergence, as well as their relevance for a diverse range of displaced and culturally dislocated groups.
2. *Critically analyze and critique* dominant paradigms including the ways knowledge production is shaped by power relations of colonization and its continuing forms.
3. *Develop* familiarity with relational epistemologies as an overarching framework within which Indigenous methodologies are situated, including the ways these can draw on paradigms and methodologies from Western traditions that are commensurate with the goals of decolonization.
4. *Foster* understanding of the mobilization of basic principles of Indigenous post-colonial research within a specific context including the ways in which their own cultural identities (broadly defined) are situated within the research process.
5. *Enhance* written, oral, and analytical skills through course readings, discussions, presentations, and written assignments.

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 READINGS:

Course readings will be posted to OWL in the resources folder under “Weekly Readings (PDF Copies).”

ASSIGNMENTS:

	ASSIGNMENT		VALUE	DUE DATE
1.	Participation		10 %	Weekly
2.	Annotated Bibliography		20 %	January 30, 2024
3.	Indigenous Research Assignment	Part 1: Indigenous Researcher Essay Component	30%	February 27, 2024
		Part 2: Indigenous Researcher Presentation Component	20%	There are two dates in Weeks 10 and 11. Sign up in class.
4.	Final Reflection Assignment			Tues, Mar. 26, 2024
	Total		%	

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:

PARTICIPATION (worth 10%)

It is worth 10%. Participation means not only attendance, but an active engagement in the class. 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 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 and tutorial. 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>

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Due Date: January 30, 2024

This assignment is worth 20%. Students will write an annotated bibliography for a topic that would be considered “Indigenous Research.” Find 8 sources, either books or journal articles. Answer the following questions in a paragraph(s):

1. What is the source about?
2. What is the main idea(s) focused on within of the source?
3. Identify the research question or thesis statement.
4. Is a clear research methodology and methods identified in the source? What are they?
5. What are some of the key findings of the research?

The summary should be one page in length for each source. Include a paper bibliography citation for each source.

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
1	8 sources recorded	1 mks
2	Proper Bibliography Citations (MLA/APA)	2 mks
3	Content	12 mks
4	Grammar	3 mks
5	Style & Formatting (Times New Roman Font; Size 12; pages numbered; double spaced; margins 1 inch; paragraphs)	1 mks
6	Title Page (student name, course code, date, instructors name)	1 mks
	Total	20 %

INDIGENOUS RESEARCHER ASSIGNMENT

This assignment contains two parts. Students must complete a research essay and a formal academic presentation.

Part 1: Indigenous Researcher Essay Component

Due Date: February 27, 2024

This assignment is worth 30%. Students will research the work of an Indigenous researcher and write a research essay on the individual and their work.

1. The researcher in focus must be Indigenous. Include some background information to give context for the reader.
2. Answer the following question: *What is the contribution(s) of this Indigenous researcher to the field of Indigenous research?*
3. Must use 5 resources on the researcher, their own work or secondary sources on the research and their own work/research (books, journal articles). This does not include websites. Those can be used in addition to books and journal articles but should not replace the 5 required resources.
4. This is a formal essay with introduction, body of content, conclusion, and bibliography.
5. Include a title page: Student name, course code, date, instructor's name, assignment title
6. 6-8 pages in length; not including bibliography

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
1	Introduction	5 mks
2	Content	15 mks
3	Conclusion	2 mks
4	Grammar	3 mks
5	Style & Formatting (Times New Roman Font; Size 12; pages numbered)	1 mks
6	Bibliography; 5 required resources	4 mks
	Total	30 %

Part 2: Indigenous Researcher Presentation Component

Due Date: There are two dates in Weeks 10 and 11. Sign up in class.

Students will do a presentation worth 20% on their Researcher examined in their essay. You will have 10-15 minutes to do your presentation.

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
--	------------	-------

1	Presentation visuals (Powerpoint; Google; Prezi)	1 mks
2	Overall Quality of Content, organization, and style of presentation	6 mks
3	History/Personal Background on Researcher	3 mks
4	Survey of the Researchers Publications	3 mks
5	Personal Reflections on the Researcher	5 mks
6	Contributions of the Researcher to Indigenous Research	2 mks
	Total	20%

***Students will sign up for one of 2 presentation days. The presentations are at the end of the term.

FINAL REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT

Due Date: Tues, Mar. 26, 2024

It is worth %. Students will write two (2) class reflections. Choose two (2) weeks and write a reflection on each of those week's content, including the readings, lecture and class discussion, along with your own personal thoughts on the content.

- In an essay format, explore what are the core themes of each week you are highlighting, include, its readings, lecture, and discussion.
- Include four (4) additional related academic resources on the topics your included. Must be books, journal articles, government sites, Indigenous organizations, documentaries, or published reports. No random websites!
- Included quotes and paraphrase a variety of resources.
- Each reflection should be a minimum of 3-4 pages each in length; double spaced; Times New Roman Font; Title page; bibliography (APA/MLA)

Grading Rubric

	Components	Value
1	Introduction	3 mks
2	Content	10 mks
3	Conclusion	2 mks
4	Style	2 mks
5	Formatting	1 mks
6	Bibliography; 4 additional required academic resources	2 mks
	Total	20 %

COURSE SCHEDULE & WEEKLY READINGS:

The following is a weekly breakdown of the classes and readings. Make sure to come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

Week 1 – Opening the Circle: Introduction to the Course

Date: Tues, Jan. 9, 2024

Week 2 – Learning from Indigenous Ways of Learning and Gathering Knowledge

Date: Tues, Jan. 16, 2024

Wilson, Shawn. *Research is Ceremony: Indigenous Research Methods*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing, 2008. pp. 62-79.

Debassige, Brent. "Re-conceptualizing Anishinaage Mino-Bimaadiziwin (the Good Life) as Research Methodology: A Spirit-Centered Way in Anishinaabe Research. *Canadian Journal of Native Education*. Vol. 33, No. 1 (2010), pp. 11-28.

<https://ojs.library.ubc.ca/index.php/CJNE/article/view/196519>

Week 3 – Colonization and the History of Research on Indigenous Peoples

Date: Tues, Jan. 23, 2024

Little Bear, Leroy. "Jagged Worldviews Colliding." In Marie Battiste. *Reclaiming Indigenous Voice and Vision*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia, 2000

https://www.learnalberta.ca/content/aswt/worldviews/documents/jagged_worldviews_colliding.pdf.

Smith, Linda T. Smith. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. London: Zed Books Ltd., 1999. pp. 19-41.

Week 4 – Decolonizing Research Methodologies and Methods: Making Space

Date: Tues, Jan. 30 2024

Kovach, Margaret. "Emerging from the Margins: Indigenous Methodologies." In Leslie Brown and Susan Strega. *Research as Resistance: Critical, Indigenous, and Anti-Oppressive Approaches*. Toronto: Canadian Scholars Press, 2005. pp. 19-35.

Reid, Andrea J. Et al. "Two-Eyed Seeing": An Indigenous framework to transform fisheries research and management. *Fish and Fisheries*. Vol. 22, (2021): pp. 243–261.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/faf.12516>.

Week 5 – Conducting Contemporary Indigenous Research

Date: Tues, Feb. 6, 2024

Kovach, Margaret. *Indigenous Methodologies: Characteristics, Conversations, and Contexts*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2021.

Prete, Tiffany Dionne. Beadworking as an Indigenous Research Paradigm.

Art/Research International: A Transdisciplinary Journal. Vol. 4, No. 1 (2019), pp. 28-57.

Week 6 – Culturally Responsive Research Approaches

Date: Tues, Feb. 13, 2024

Archibald, Jo-ann. *Indigenous Storywork: Education the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2008. pp.59-82.

Chilisa, Bagele. *Indigenous Research Methodologies*. Los Angeles: Sage, 2012. pp. 159-202.

Week 7 – Research as Resistance and Resurgence

Date: Tues, Feb, 27, 2024

Absolon, Kathleen E. *Kaandossiwin: How We Come to Know Indigenous Re-Search Methodologies*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing, 2022. pp.226-254.

Heather E. McGregor, Et. Al. Braiding Designs for Decolonizing Research Methodologies: Theory, Practice, Ethics. *Reconceptualizing Educational Research Methodology*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (2018), pp. 1-21. <https://journals.oslomet.no/index.php/term/article/view/2781>.

Week 8 – Indigenous Feminist Research Methodologies

Date: Mar. 5, 2024

Mishuana, Goeman. “Indigenous Interventions and Feminist Methods.” Anderson, Chris and Jean M. O’Brien, Eds. *Sources and Methods in Indigenous Studies*. London: Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, 2017. pp. 185-194.

Chantal Fiola. “Researching Métis Spirituality: Insights and the Work Ahead.” *Pawaatamihk: Journal of Métis Thinkers*. Vol. 1, Issue 1 (2023), pp. 110-118.

Week 9 – Indigenous LGBTQ2S+ Research Methodologies

Date: Tues, Mar. 12, 2024

Kyrölä, Katariina and Tuija Huuki. “Re-imagining a Queer Indigenous Past: Affective Archives and Minor Gestures in the Sámi Documentary Sparroabbán.” *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, Vol. 60, No. 5, (2021), pp. 75-98

Henningham, Mandy. “Blak, Bi+ and Borderlands: An Autoethnography on Multiplicities of Indigenous Queer Identities Using Borderland Theory.” *Social Inclusion*. Vol. 9, No. 2, (2021), pp. 7–17

Week 10 – Presentations

Date: Tues, Mar. 19, 2024

Week 11 – Presentations

Date: Tues, Mar. 26, 2024

Week 12 –Closing the Circle

Date: Tues, Apr. 2, 2024

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://www.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 (Indigenous Initiatives)	https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/land-acknowledgement.html
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