

**INDIGENOUS STUDIES /
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE STUDIES AND SCIENCES
TRENT UNIVERSITY
ERST/C INDG 3730 Y: Indigenous Peoples, Health and the Environment
2010-11 (FW)
Peterborough**

Class location: DNA 105
Class Time: Monday 12-2pm
Seminar Time: Monday 2-3pm

Instructor: Professor Chris Furgal
Office: FPHL/Gzowski College Rm 303
Tel: 705-748-1011 ext 7953
Email: chrisfurgal@trentu.ca
Office hours: Wed 2-4 pm

Teaching Assistant: Kaitlin Breton-Honeyman
Office: ESB 317
Tel: 705-748-1011
Email: kaitlinbreton@trentu.ca
Office hours: TBA

Department Secretary: Deb Mills
Office: ESB B202
Tel: x7199
Email: dmills@trentu.ca

Course Description:

This course, "*Indigenous peoples, Health and the Environment*" will provide students with an introduction to the multidisciplinary field of environmental health and its application to understanding health and changing health status among Indigenous peoples. Through lectures students will gain an understanding of the basic concepts, theories and methods used in environmental health. Through seminars and case studies they will apply this knowledge to the investigation of the role of environment in the changing health status of Indigenous populations around the world. The course is premised on the understanding that environment is one of the key factors influencing the health of many Indigenous peoples around the world today and changes in local and global environmental conditions (both human induced and natural) are having a significant influence on shifts in Indigenous health status. This is a "recommended course" for the previous *Specialization in Indigenous Environmental Studies* and is a recommended course for the new Indigenous Environmental Studies / Sciences degree. It is also an open course for students from various disciplines interested in the topics of environmental health and Indigenous health.

Prerequisites: ERSC 2240H (220) or ERST – INDG 2601Y (260) or ERSC – INDG 2150H (215H) or 265 or NURS 1000H, 1002H and 1010H (100). Excludes ERSC/ERST – INDG 373.

Format:

The course will be conducted in 2 lecture hours per week and a series of 1 hour seminars distributed throughout the year. Seminars will use video and scientific paper review and

discussion / debate format to complement and facilitate understanding of the lecture concepts in the context of Indigenous communities and cultures.

Material:

Two required texts for the course that present an overview of Aboriginal health issues and basic concepts in environmental health will be used. Material from these texts will not be circulated via WebCT. Additionally, the course will use a number of scientific journal articles, book chapters and other materials as reference sources. These reading materials and the lecture notes will be distributed through WebCT to students throughout the course in advance of lectures and seminars.

Required Texts:

Waldram, J.B., Herring, D.A., and Young, T.K. 2006. *Aboriginal Health in Canada*. Second Edition. University of Toronto Press. Toronto. ISBN-13: 978-0-8020-8579-5.

Yassi, A., Kjellstrom, T., de Kok, T., Guidotti, T.L. 2001. *Basic Environmental Health*. Oxford University Press, New York, New York. ISBN: 0-19-513558-X

Schedule:

Fall Term * subject to change with notification based on Guest Lecturer availability

Week	Session	Topic
Sept 13	Lecture	Introduction to Indigenous Environmental Health: syllabus review, introductions and discussion
Sept 20	Lecture	What is environment ? What is health ? Links and status of environment as a determinant of health among Indigenous Peoples <i>Seminar- Article searching and categorization</i>
Sept 27	Lecture	Indigenous and non-Indigenous models and measurements of health and environment <i>Seminar- Article critiquing</i>
Oct 4	Lecture	Alternative views of understanding health and well-being: Self-perceived health; Eco health
Oct 11		<i>No Class – Thanksgiving Monday</i>
Oct 18	Lecture	Indigenous peoples health –women’s health (<i>Guest Lecture: Rebecca Martel</i>) Traditional healing and Traditional healers – (<i>Guest Lecture J Alvarez Costa</i>) <i>Article synthesis and critique #1 Due</i>
Oct 25		<i>Reading Week – no class</i>
Nov 1	Lecture	Nature of environmental health hazards for Indigenous populations 1: Concepts of hazard, risk, benefit, vulnerability and adaptive capacity <i>Seminar – Film “The Last Days of Okak”</i>
Nov 8	Lecture	Nature of environmental health hazards (risks and benefits) for Indigenous populations 2: Chemical hazards <i>Seminar – Film and discussion (Mercury in Grassy Narrows)</i>
Nov 15	Lecture	Nature of environmental health hazards (risks and benefits) for Indigenous populations

		3: Physical hazards
Nov 22	Lecture	Nature of environmental health hazards (risks and benefits) for Indigenous populations 4: Mechanical hazards (injury and trauma) <i>Papers and topics for Studies Assignment #2 must be registered with course TA</i>
Nov 29	Lecture	Nature of environmental health hazards (risks and benefits) for Indigenous populations 5: Biological and Psychosocial hazards <i>Science Assignment #2 and Studies Assignment #2 Due via WebCT site (for studies assignments, paper copy for science assignments is permitted) Registration of Assignment #3 papers with TA</i>
Dec 6	Lecture	Single paper critique presentations Assignment #3 paper critiques due electronically to TA (via WebCT site)
Exam Period		Christmas Exam

Winter Term* subject to change with notification based on Guest Lecturer availability

Jan 10	Lecture	Exam review and marking review of Term 1 / Introduction to Term 2
Jan 17	Lecture	Introduction to environmental health risk / benefit assessment and management
Jan 24	Lecture	Environmental health risk / benefit perception and communication
Jan 31	Lecture	Environmental health surveillance and monitoring <i>Independent research paper registration of topic with Teaching Assistant</i>
Feb 7	Lecture <i>Seminar</i>	Indigenous environmental health risk management group scenario assignment <i>Indigenous environmental health risk management group scenario assignment</i>
Feb 14	Lecture <i>Seminar</i>	Indigenous environmental health risk management group scenario assignment <i>Indigenous environmental health risk management group scenario assignment Independent research paper outline due</i>
Feb 21		<i>Reading week – no classes</i>
Feb 28	Lecture* <i>Seminar</i>	Special Topic 1: Drinking Water, Sanitation and Indigenous Communities (<i>Guest Lecture</i>) <i>Film and discussion Science and Studies Group Assignment Due</i>
Mar 7	Lecture <i>Seminar</i>	Special Topic 2: Climate Change and Health of Indigenous Peoples <i>Film and discussion</i>
Mar 14	Lecture* <i>Seminar</i>	Special Topic 3: Traditional Knowledge and Science for Indigenous Health (<i>Guest Lecture</i>) <i>Film and discussion</i>
Mar 21	Lecture* <i>Seminar</i>	Special Topic 4: Traditional Plants and medicines (<i>Guest Lecture</i>) <i>Class Debate in Bioprospecting for Traditional Plants and Medicines</i>
Mar 28	<i>Lecture</i> <i>Seminar</i>	Research Paper Presentations Research Paper Presentations
April 4	Lecture	Research Paper Presentations

	<i>Seminar</i>	<i>Research Paper Presentations Independent Research Papers Due</i>
Exam Period	Final Exam during Exam Period	

Course Evaluation:

Term 1 Summary:

All Students: Article synthesis and critique #1	5 %
Studies Assignment #2: health concepts / pathways article review and synthesis	10 %
Science Assignment #2: risk assessment / epidemiology assignment	10 %
All Students : Article synthesis and critique #3	5 %
All Students : Article synthesis and critique #3 in class presentation	5 %
Seminar participation / Web CT quizzes Term 1	5 %
Mid-term exam	20 %
Total	50 %

Term 2 Summary:

Studies Assignment #4: Env hlth risk management and communication assignment	15 %
Science Assignment#4: Env health risk assessment and management assignment	15 %
All: Independent research paper (assignment #5) (oral presentation-7.5% paper outline 2.5%; written paper-10%)	20 %
Seminar participation / WebCT quizzes	5 %
Final exam	10 %
Total	50 %

University Policies :

Policy on Submission of Assignments

High grades are given for original, concise, organized, and accurate work. Late assignments will be penalized by 5% per weekday. Extensions on all assignments can be negotiated with the instructor until 7 days before the deadline. Written approval of the instructor must be submitted with the assignment. Normally, this can be done via email. Patience must be given with respect to grading of all late assignments.

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty, which includes plagiarism and cheating, is an extremely serious academic offence and carries penalties varying from a 0 grade on an assignment to expulsion from the University. Definitions, penalties, and procedures for dealing with plagiarism and cheating are set out in Trent University’s *Academic Integrity Policy*. You have a responsibility to educate yourself – unfamiliarity with the policy is not an excuse. You are strongly encouraged to visit Trent’s Academic Integrity website to learn more: www.trentu.ca/academicintegrity.

Access to Instruction:

It is Trent University's intent to create an inclusive learning environment. If a student has a disability and/or health consideration and feels that he/she may need accommodations to succeed in this course, the student should contact the Disability Services Office (BL Suite 109, 748-1281, disabilityservices@trentu.ca) as soon as possible. Complete text can be found under Access to Instruction in the Academic Calendar.

Communication :

For student and instructor privacy and security all course correspondence will occur through Trent email accounts only. Email inquiries sent to the course Instructor or TA will typically be responded to within 24 hours whenever possible. Correspondence will not take place through WebCT email, Twitter or Facebook.

Indigenous Studies Department Policy on Research Ethics :

Students enrolled in Indigenous Studies courses are subject to the University and Department Policies on Research Ethics for research involving human subjects. It is important that all students become familiar with these policies and procedures. They can be found on the Trent REB website (<http://www.trentu.ca/research/certification.php>) and the Indigenous Studies Department website (<http://trentu.ca/academic/nativestudies/welcomeB.htm>). In conducting any research or gathering of original information in Indigenous Studies the Department is encouraging, supportive and respectful of orality and appropriate Indigenous protocols. It is important that students discuss the gathering of any information for use in their course assignments or research projects with the Instructor before undertaking those activities. Appropriate protocols for the specific activity can then be discussed in order to ensure that all participants are respected and treated in a responsible and ethical manner.

Please see the Trent University academic calendar for University Diary dates, Academic Information and Regulations, and University and departmental degree requirements.