University of Texas at El Paso
The Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Indigenous Cultures of North America
ANTH 3320
CRN #: 26684
(CROSSLISTED WITH SOCI 3320/26685 & NAIS 4350/26683)
Course Syllabus
Spring 2024

Course Instructor:  Olga Lauter, Visiting Assistant Professor
Email:  olauter@utep.edu
Telephone:  915-747-6679
Lecture Location:  Old Main 211
Class Meeting Times:  Monday/Wednesday, 1:30pm - 2:50pm
Duration:  Jan 16, 2024 - May 02, 2024
Instructor’s Office Location:  Old Main Building 317
Instructor’s Office Hours:  email anytime, phone during business hours, office hours Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 pm – 13:30 pm or by appointment
TA:  Josue E. Lopez
Email:  jelopez5@miners.utep.edu

Course Catalog Description:
This course investigates the cultures of the circumpolar North with an emphasis on social organization, subsistence patterns, traditional ecological knowledge and belief systems. It examines the ways in which the Indigenous peoples have been adapting to the challenges of their social, ecological and political environments in the rapidly changing Arctic. The course explores decolonizing and knowledge co-production research methodologies.

Learning Objectives and Outcomes:

• To develop an understanding of the histories and the contemporary issues of the Indigenous peoples of the circumpolar North;
• To understand the similarities and differences of the Indigenous peoples and cultures, their adaptations to change, and their roles as agents of change;
• To gain an appreciation of the cultural diversity of the circumpolar North and of different knowledge systems;
• To apply critical thinking to the analysis of the historical and contemporary challenges of the Indigenous peoples related to social, environmental and political issues;
• To develop an understanding of how to apply decolonizing and knowledge co-production research methodologies.
Required Texts:

- Additional readings posted on Blackboard

Assignments:

**Class Discussions (20%)**:

- The discussion activities will ensure a better understanding of the reading materials and of in-class videos.
- You will receive an individual grade for each discussion. A zero grade will be given for unexcused absences.

**Response Papers (50%)**:

- Students will be required to submit three (3) survey/reflection papers during the semester that are 3-5 double spaced pages based on class discussions, readings, power points, videos and guest speeches. They should address 2-4 subjects that were covered in the class. They should reflect your perspectives on the issues. The papers should be submitted via Blackboard on Sunday by 11:59 pm. Additional instructions will be given in advance.

**Midterm Exam (10%)**:

- This will be an open-book exam. The exam questions will cover assigned readings, during-class discussions and lectures.

**Final Presentation (20%)**:

- In-class presentation: The final class sessions will be used for in-class presentations. Each student will briefly (10 minutes) present their researched topic and the key things learned from the project. The topics can range from education, language, current political issues, traditional practices, subsistence challenges, village outmigration etc. The students should have a power point that includes references (at least 5 sources).

**Important**: I can only accept assignments done in *Word (.doc or .docx)*. Please name your paper as follows: Last name, first initial, week number. I strongly suggest that you submit all your work with plenty of time to spare in case of a technical issue. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through Blackboard, please contact the UTEP Help Desk.

**Late Policy**: Assignments that are turned in late will receive a full letter-grade penalty (equivalent to 10%) for each day they are late.
No make-up work will be offered except for approved excused absences (medical and family emergencies). I need to know about your excused absences as early as possible.

**Grading:**
90-100 = A
80-89.9 = B
70-79.9 = C
60-69.9 = D
59.9 and below = F

The way the assignments and the class discussions will impact the final point score will be explained in Lesson 1, and it can be explained again during office hours.

Note: the syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the students are given reasonable and advance notice of the modification.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
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| Week 1
01/17         | Course Introduction                        | Read: The Syllabus                                                                  |
| Week 2
01/22 - 01/24 | Overview of the Arctic Regions
The Inupiat of Alaska | Read: EPASST Textbook: Introduction
Chapter 8
ANR Textbook: Ugiuvangmiut Illugiit Atuut: Teasing Cousins Songs of the King Island Inupiat by Deanna Paniataaq Kingston |
| Week 3
01/29 - 01/31 | The Yupiit of Western Alaska
The Chukchi and Siberian Yupiit of the Russian Far East | Read: EPASST Textbook: Chapter 14, Chapter 2
ANR Textbook: The Yup’ik and Cup’ik People by Joan Pirciralria Hamilton |
| Week 4
02/05 – 02/07 | The Unangax Peoples of the Pribilof Islands, Alaska
The Unangax Peoples of the Aleutian Islands | Read: EPASST Textbook: Chapter 1
Blackboard readings |
| Week 5
02/12 – 02/14 | Sugpiaq/Alutiiq People of Alaska
The Cree of James Bay, Quebec, Canada | Read: Blackboard readings
EPASST Textbook: Chapter 3
**First response paper due on Sunday, February 18th, 11:59pm** |
| Week 6 | 02/19 – 02/21 | The Innu of Labrador, Canada  
The Inuit of Nunavut, Canada | Read:  
EPASST Textbook: Chapter 5  
Chapter 6 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 7 | 02/26 – 02/28 | Kaska of Canada | Read:  
EPASST Textbook: Chapter 11  
Blackboard readings  
**IN-CLASS MIDTERM on 02/28** |
| Week 8 | 03/04 – 03/06 | Colonialism and its Legacies in the Arctic | Read:  
ANR Textbook: Yuuyaraq: The Way of the Human Being by Harold Napoleon (Yup’ik)  
The Comity Agreement: Missionization of Alaska Native People by Maria Sháa Tláa Williams |
| **Spring Break**  
March 11th – March 15th | | | |
| Week 9 | 03/18 – 03/20 | Native Solidarity and ANCSA | Read:  
ANR Textbook: A Brief History of Native Solidarity by Maria Sháa Tláa Williams  
Why the Natives of Alaska Have a Land Claim by William Iggiagruk Hensley  
Blackboard readings  
**Second response paper due on Sunday, March 24th by 11:59pm** |
| Week 10 | 03/25 - 03/27 | Indigenous Epistemologies | Read:  
ANR Textbook: A Yupiaq Worldview: A Pathway to Ecology and Spirit by Oscar Angayuq Kawagley  
Blackboard readings |
| Week 11 | 04/01 - 04/03 | Education | Read:  
Blackboard readings |
| Week 12 | 04/08 – 04/10 | Health and Well-Being | Read:  
Blackboard readings  
Review of presentations |
| Week 13 | 04/15 – 04/17 | Co-Production of Knowledge | Read:  
ANR Textbook: What is Truth? Where Western Science and Traditional Knowledge Converge by Lilian Na’ia Alessa  
Blackboard readings and |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>04/17</td>
<td>Final discussion of class materials, and how to locate good and viable sources for your presentations, how to construct research models. Students should be prepared to discuss their research topics. Final Response paper due by Sunday, April 21st, 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Decolonizing Research Methodologies</td>
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<td>04/22 – 04/24</td>
<td>Read: Blackboard readings</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Course review</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>STUDENT PRESENTATIONS</td>
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<td>04/29 – 05/01</td>
<td>Professionalism: I reserve the right to add or deduct up to 5 points from your final grade based on professionalism. Professionalism includes, but is not limited to, being on time to all class sessions; being respectful of the professor, teaching assistant, and your peers; demonstrating a strong effort and enthusiasm in your work; and actively engaging in class discussion.</td>
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<td>Academic Honesty: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner, as prescribed by the Standards of Conduct: <a href="https://www.utep.edu/hoop/section-2/studentconduct-and-discipline.html">https://www.utep.edu/hoop/section-2/studentconduct-and-discipline.html</a>. Submitted work should be unmistakably your own. Professors are required to report academic dishonesty and any other violation of the Standards of Conduct to the Dean of Students. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones’ own. Avoid plagiarism by giving credit where credit is due, using quotation marks when using words directly from another source, and preferably putting things in your own words. I prefer your own phrasing, even if it is imperfect, to a beautifully phrased statement that is borrowed from some other source. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. If academic dishonesty is suspected, the Dean of Students office will be contacted for adjudication. A temporary grade will be issued if their investigation extends beyond the grading period. Some of your course work may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase.</td>
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<td>Cell phones: Please silence your mobile devices or put them into a vibrate mode for the duration of class - they are disruptive for your fellow students.</td>
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Disabilities & Accommodations: If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 915-747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

COVID-19 Statement: Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area. For more information about the current infection rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Title IX Statement: The University of Texas at El Paso is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded educational programs or activities. Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination including sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, and acts of sexual violence. Title IX prohibits institutions from excluding, separating, denying benefits, or otherwise treating individuals differently on the basis of sex. Sex based discrimination is prohibited at UTEP both by law and by University and UT System policies. In accordance with Texas Education Code § 51 (“SB 212”), all UTEP employees who witness or receive information regarding an incident reasonably believed to constitute sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking, and which is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who was a UTEP student or employee at the time of the incident, must promptly report all relevant information of the incident to UTEP’s Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

UTEP designated Title IX Coordinators and Deputy Coordinators:

Gabriel Ramirez, J.D.
Title IX Coordinator
Oversees Title IX investigations and policy implementation
Institutional Compliance
Kelly Hall 312
915-747-8358
gramirez2@utep.edu

William A. Epperson
Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Primary Investigator
Institutional Compliance
Kelly Hall 312
915-747-8797
waeperson@utep.edu
Beatriz Tapia  
Deputy Title IX Coordinator  
Director  
for Equal Opportunity  
Equal Opportunity  
Kelly Hall 304  
915-747-5839  
betapia@utep.edu

Dr. Charlie Gibbens  
Deputy Title IX Coordinator  
Associate Vice President  
for Student Engagement  
Student Affairs  
Assistant Vice President for Student Support  
Union East 301  
915-747-5076  
cegibbens@utep.edu

Julie Levesque  
Deputy Title IX Coordinator  
Senior Associate Athletic Director/SWA  
for Athletics  
Athletics  
Brumbelow Building 104  
915-747-7698  
jmlevesque@utep.edu

**Other Related Resources:**

UTEP Police Department, 3118 Sun Bowl Drive, 911 Emergency, or 915.747.5611

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, Texas 75201, Tel: 214.661.9600

**Course Resources:**

**Technology Resources**

- Help Desk: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance.

**Academic Resources**

- UTEP Library: Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.

- University Writing Center (UWC): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
• RefWorks: A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial, Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

Individual Resources

• Military Student Success Center: Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.

• Center for Accommodations and Support Services: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.

• Counseling and Psychological Services: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.