Instructor: Isabel Altamirano-Jiménez  
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Time: Wednesdays 1:00-3:50 p.m  
Class location: TB 1-90  
Office Hours: By appointment  

Pre-requisites: POLS 101, NS 110 or NS 111 or consent of the Department of Political Science or Faculty of Native Studies.  

Course Description: This course focuses on Indigenous women and feminist analysis, identity, activism and the intersection of gender, colonialism, and sexism. Drawing on historical and empirical cases the course offer students a critical framework to understand the experiences, knowledge and the ways in which Indigenous women and the LGBTQ Indigenous community have been affected by and resisted colonialism and sexism. Some of the questions to be addressed are: How do Indigenous women experiences and circumstance shaped by colonialism and the law? How does Indigenous women’s knowledge translate into political activism? What are some of the creative ways in which Indigenous women resist and build community?  

Course Objectives:  
By the end of this course, students will be able to:  
  o Identity a set of issues in the field of Indigenous women studies  
  o Define concepts and offer critical and thoughtful responses to questions raised in this course  
  o To analyze the ongoing impact of colonial policies on the lives and circumstances of Indigenous women  

Note on Terminology:  
The Canadian constitution recognizes 3 groups of Aboriginal peoples termed Indian, Métis and Inuit. Today "First Nation(s)" is preferred to "Indian" in Canada. "Aboriginal," and "Indigenous" may also be used interchangeably. There are additional usages that reflect the complexities surrounding appropriate terminologies past and present and the diverse contexts in which these terms are applied.  

Class Format: Classes will be organized as lectures/ seminars. Students are expected to read all materials in advance actively engage in small and class discussions.  

Required reading materials can be found online at the library, when readings are found somewhere else, a link has been provided to access them.
Requirements and evaluation:
The course requirements are outlined below. Students should note that in all but
exceptional situations, all components of the course must be completed to receive a
passing grade. Policy regarding missed term work is outlined in Section 23.4(3) of the
University Calendar. Tests and assignments will be assigned a letter grade. Evaluation of
the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

- **Participation and attendance 20% of course grade.**
  Attendance is required and necessary to gain full advantage of the course material
  and discussions. Students are expected to read the materials before each class and
  actively participate in class. This class relies on participation because learning is a
  social activity, which is necessary to developing your critical voice. The pattern or
  your attendance and the quality of your contribution to class discussions will
determine your participation mark.

- **Critical document analysis 20% of course grade**
  Students will write a five pages-long critical analysis either of the RCMP Report
  on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women or the Amnesty International
  Stolen Sisters Report and situate such analysis with class discussions. Some
  questions to guide your reflection are: does the report addresses the concerns of
  Indigenous women and communities? Does the report provide reasons to the high
  number of missing Indigenous women? Is any solutions envisioned? **Due date:**
  **October 21**

  Documents:
  - Amnesty International. “Stolen Sisters: a Human Rights Response to
discrimination and violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada.”
  http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR200012004
  http://ywccanada.ca/data/research_docs/00000310.pdf

- **In class test 25% of course grade**
  Students will write an in-class test on **November 18.**

- **Final research paper 30% of course grade. Due December 2**
  Please check guidelines below.

- **Conclusion brief presentation 5% of course grade. December 2**
  Students will write a one page reflection on the course and briefly present it in
class. Presentations should not be longer than 5 minutes. Some questions to think
about are: What did you learn? What did surprise you? How do you relate to the
topic after what you have learned?

Guidelines to write your research paper
Research papers should:
1. Include a clearly stated thesis of what you are trying to demonstrate
2. Include an argument to support your thesis
   - the analysis should set the key issues and address key point on the opposite side
     of the argument too
   - the paper should flow nicely from one point to the next
3. Effectively use a variety of resources and include at least 7 recent scholarly
   books/articles. Effectively use of resources means:
• demonstrated familiarity with the sources cited, quoting a general, irrelevant sentence, will not be considered a good use of the materials.
• proper quotation, which should include (author, date, and page.)
• a complete bibliography should be included
4. Organization and style
• paper should be well written
• papers should have a conclusion and do not just end abruptly
5. Length
• paper should be between 10 and 15 pages long

IMPORTANT NOTE ON ASSIGNMENTS: (Example) Deadlines for assignments will be strictly observed. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date they are due. LATE assignments are penalized 10% PER DAY that they are late to a maximum of three days (-30%); after three days late assignments will not be accepted. Only in extremely special cases will extensions be granted. The instructor will not be responsible for any assignment handed in to anyone other than the instructor. It is expected that all assignments will be typed (except for in-class exams). Assignments are not handed back until all assignments are in. The final paper will be handed back at students’ request.

Marking Scheme
4.0  A+  95-100%
4.0  A   90-94%
3.7  A-  85-89%
3.3  B+  79-84%
3.0  B   75-78%
2.7  B-  71-74%
2.3  C+  67-70%
2.0  C   64-66%
1.7  C-  60-63%
1.3  D+  55-59%
1.0  D   50-54%
0.0  F   0-49%

Missed Term Work and absence from exams: Please see Calendar section 23.4.3 regarding Missed Term Work and 23.5.6 regarding Absence from Exams for information on absences.

Cell phones: Cell phones are to be turned off during lectures, labs and seminars. Cell phones are not to be brought to exams.

Students with disabilities: Students who require accommodation in this course due to a disability are advised to discuss their needs with Specialized Support & Disability Services (2-800 Students’ Union Building). Email: ssds.office@uss.ualberta.ca or phone: 780-492-3381
**Academic Support Centre:** Students who require additional help in developing strategies for better time management, study skills or examination skills should contact the Academic Support Centre (2-703 Students’ Union Building). Email academicSOS@uss.ualberta.ca or phone 780-492-2682.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**
“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University Calendar.”

**Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University. An important excerpt from the Code of Student Behaviour is appended at the end of this syllabus. Additional information and resources are available through the UofA’s Truth in Education project: http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/TIE/.

**Learning and working environment:** The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:
- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.
For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice: (http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/Policies Procedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110

**Academic Honesty:** All students should consult the information provided by the Office of Judicial Affairs regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook and Information for Students). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.
Weekly Outline and Readings

Week 1 September 2
Introduction and course expectations

Week 2 September 9
Locating indigeneity

Week 3 September 16
Gender and colonialism

Week 4 September 23
Indigenous feminism

Week 5 September 30
Indigeneity and sexuality
- Video Gender and Sexuality

Week 6 October 7
Indigenous women and the law

Week 7 October 14
Gender and violence

**Week 8 October 21**  
**Gendering self-determination**


**Week 9 October 28**  
**Indigenous beauty pageants**


**Week 10 November 4**  
**Indigenous women and the city**

  
  **Test practice**

**Reading Week November 8-13**

**Week 11 November 18**  
**Indigenous women’ knowledge**

  http://www.reseaudialog.qc.ca/Docs/05INDITERRA052013SIMARDGAGNON.pdf
  
  **Test day**

**Week 12 November 25**  
**Art and activism**

Final paper is due
Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit [http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/)

**NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE**

The U of A considers plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence to be serious academic offences. Plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence can be avoided if students are told what these offences are and if possible sanctions are made clear at the outset. Instructors should understand that the principles embodied in the Code are essential to our academic purpose. For this reason, instructors will be fully supported by Departments, Faculties and the University in their endeavours to rightfully discover and pursue cases of academic dishonesty in accordance with the Code.

At the beginning of each term, we ask you to review with your students the definitions of plagiarism and cheating. We are now also asking you to review with your students the definition of Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence. Your co-operation and assistance in this matter are much appreciated.

### 30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

### 30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

### 30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. This includes such acts as the failure to provide pertinent information on an application for admission or the altering of an educational document/transcript.

### 30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

More information can be found at: [http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx](http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx)
# Excerpts from the Code of Student Behaviour

## Procedures for Instructors Regarding

### Plagiarism, Cheating,

### Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence

The following procedures are drawn from the *Code of Student Behaviour* as approved by GFC and the Board of Governors. The guidelines summarize what instructors must do when they have reason to believe that a student has plagiarized, cheated, misrepresented facts or participated in an offence. If you have questions about these guidelines, or about the policies, please talk with the senior administrator in your Faculty responsible for dealing with student discipline—usually an Associate Dean or the Appeals and Compliance Officer (Appeals Coordinator), University Governance (2-2655).

### 30.5.4 Procedures for Instructors in Cases Respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour

#### 30.5.4(1)
When an Instructor believes that a Student may have committed an Inappropriate Academic Behaviour Offence [30.3.2] or that there has been Misrepresentation of Facts [30.3.6(4)] or Participation in an Offence [30.3.6(5)] in cases respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in the course that he or she instructs, the Instructor will meet with the Student. Before such a meeting, the Instructor shall inform the Student of the purpose of the meeting. In the event that the Student refuses or fails to meet with the Instructor within a reasonable period of time specified by the Instructor, the Instructor shall, taking into account the available information, decide whether a report to the Dean is warranted.

#### 30.5.4(2)
If the Instructor believes there has been a violation of the Code, the Instructor shall, as soon as possible after the event occurred, report that violation to the Dean and provide a written statement of the details of the case. The instructor may also include a recommendation for sanction.

### Possible Sanctions

One or more of the following sanctions given in 30.4.3 (2) and (3) of the Code are commonly used for plagiarism, cheating, participation in an offence, and misrepresentation of facts:

- **30.4.3(2)** a.i: a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on any term work or examination for reason of Inappropriate Academic Behaviour
- **30.4.3(2)** a.ii: Reduction of a grade in a course
- **30.4.3(2)** a.iii: a grade of F for a course
- **30.4.3(2)** a.iv: a remark on a transcript of 8 (or 9 for failing graduate student grades), indicating Inappropriate Academic Behaviour, in addition to 30.4.3(2)a.i, 30.4.3(2)a.ii or 30.4.3(2)a.iii
- **30.4.3(3)** b: Expulsion
- **30.4.3(3)** c: Suspension

The following sanctions may be used in rare cases:

- **30.4.3(3)** e: Suspension of a Degree already awarded
- **30.4.3(3)** f: Rescission of a Degree already awarded

### 30.6.1 Initiation of an Appeal

#### 30.6.1(1)
When a Student has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour or an Applicant is found to have committed an offence under the Code of Applicant Behaviour, whether or not that Student or Applicant has been given a sanction, the Student or Applicant may appeal that decision, except in the case of a decision of the Discipline Officer under 30.5.6(2)e.ii, which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to the Discipline Officer, once the student receives the final decision of the Discipline Officer, the student can appeal the decisions of both Dean and the Discipline Officer at the same time. The written appeal must be presented to the Appeals Coordinator in University Governance within 15 Working Days of the deemed receipt of the decision by the Student or Applicant. The finding that an offence has been committed, the sanction imposed or both may form the basis of appeal. The written appeal must also state the full grounds of appeal and be signed by the Appellant. The appeal shall be heard by the UAB.

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**Professor Steven Penney**  
Chair, Campus Law Review Committee

**Dr Steven Dew**  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

* The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) responsible for the review of the *Code of Student Behaviour* and of student disciplinary procedures.

Updated: 27/08/2015