

Draft Syllabus Fall Term 2022
INDIGENOUS CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY:
A SACRED JOURNEY OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL, FAITH AND HOPE

This course is offered with the Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land Theological Education Council, in collaboration with St. John's College located at the University of Manitoba and the Canadian Mennonite University, providing opportunities for theological study in partnership and work towards reconciliation.

General information:

Course # BTS 5700J (3 credit hour course)

Date: Sept 13 – Dec 6 2022

Time: Fall term Tuesday evenings 6:00 pm (In- person and on Zoom)

Location: CMU but at St. John's College, University of Manitoba

Instructors:

Rev. Barbara Shoomski, Masters of Theology (Vancouver School of Theology)

Honourary Assistant at All Saints' Anglican Church, Winnipeg and Metis Indigenous Elder

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Rev. Deacon Tanis McLeod Kolisnyk, Masters of Arts - Theology (University of Winnipeg)

Honourary Assistant at Epiphany Indigenous Anglican Church Winnipeg and St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church Winnipeg Beach.

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Phone: 204-663-5453

Requisites: None

Course Description:

This 3-credit hour course will provide students with a foundation of understanding of the spiritual knowledge of Indigenous peoples, on the Land that we find ourselves today. Indigenous instructors will examine Indigenous wisdom within the context of Christian belief, while honouring Indigenous and Christian ways of knowing God. Students will have the opportunity to enhance their own theological understanding of Indigenous spiritual practice, while respectfully affirming Indigenous beliefs within God's creation and love manifest through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- understand basic components of Indigenous sacred spirituality and have had the opportunity to hear Indigenous story, values, and importance of symbols.
- learn how Old Testament Scriptures link to Indigenous wisdom and teachings.
- understand the integration of spirituality within the whole of the Indigenous experience.

- learn about Indigenous Anglican self-determination within the Anglican Church of Canada.
- explore modern challenges that are still in front of us on this path of reconciliation.

Required Textbooks:

Sinclair, Niigaanwewidam James, and Warren Cariou, **Manitowapow: Aboriginal Writings from the Land of Water**, (Highwater Press, Winnipeg MB, 2011).

Additional Readings in the form of articles or small portions of books will be provided.

- First Peoples Theology Journal, Volume 4, No 1, June 2006
- First Peoples Theology Journal, Volume 2, No 1, September 2001
- First Peoples Theology Journal Special Edition, 2010
- One Church Many Tribes: Following Jesus the Way God Made you, 2000
- Friesen, John W. Aboriginal Spirituality & Biblical Theology: Closer than You Think, (Calgary Alberta, Detselig Enterprises Ltd, 2000).

Voluntary Withdrawal Date: **Nov 15 2022**

The Grade Distribution for this course is as follows:

A+	Exceptional	90-100
A	Excellent	80-89
B+	Very Good	77-79
B	Good	70-76
C+	Satisfactory	67-69
C	Adequate	60-66
D	Marginal	50-59
F	Inadequate	0-49

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Participation 10%

Journal Submission 5X10% = 50%

Final Paper 40%

Grading Scheme:

1. **Informed Participation: (10%)**

Students are expected to have read the required reading material prior to each class and expected to contribute actively and knowledgeably to the class-room discussion. Students must give evidence of having read the material with care and insight.

Participation in the Elder teachings is part of the experiential piece of this course. For students who are joining the course by zoom, an extra 6-8-page assignment can be arranged with the instructor and the student to fulfill this category.

2. Journal 10% per entry X 5 submissions (50%)

Students will write five journal entries on the topics covered during class.

- All assignments should have a title page containing all of the pertinent information, Student Name, Student Number and email contact information
- Pdf file name should begin with the student's surname and designate the particular assignment (e.g. J. Smith Journal Entry 1.doc)
- Each Journal entry will be sent to the designated facilitator by email as a pdf attachment.
- Journal entries should be two pages (500 words, double spaced, font 12)
- The student should offer a theological/spiritual reflection upon the material that they have encountered in the previous class. Explore holding Indigenous Spirituality and Christian Faith in relationship, using the Indigenous ways of knowing God as an important base to your reflection.

NOTE: The final journal entry and final paper will be due on the last day of class.

3. Final Research Paper (40%) Due last day of class Dec 6 2022

- Undergraduate Students will provide an eight-page research essay (minimum 2000 words, double spaced, font 12 APA format) on the challenges and opportunities in worship/spiritual practices that combine Indigenous and Christian sources. This essay should consider both theological and biblical arguments for such practices. A bibliography should also be provided, with at least eight sources. Please submit the final paper by email to t.kolisnyk@uwinnipeg.ca by the due date. Upon receipt, an email response will be sent to you to confirm your submission.
- Master Students will provide a ten-page research essay (minimum 2500 words, double spaced, font 12 APA format) on the challenges and opportunities in worship/spiritual practices that combine Indigenous and Christian sources. This essay should consider both theological and biblical arguments for such practices. A bibliography should also be provided, with at least ten sources. Please submit the final paper by email to t.kolisnyk@uwinnipeg.ca by the due date. Upon receipt, an email response will be sent to you to confirm your submission.

4. Limitation on use of social media

Please note, any and all materials from the zoom classes, including screen capture pictures of fellow students or professors and Elders cannot be posted on Facebook or any other social media without the express consent of the effected individuals.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anglican Journal, "Bishop Mark MacDonald, The Anglican Journal, "*Renewing the Promise, Walking Together*", February 12, 2013 <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/articles/renewing-the-promise>

_____ "Bishop Mark MacDonald The Anglican Journal, "*We've Got to Do it Ourselves,*" <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/articles/weve-got-to-do-it-ourselves-10229>

_____ " Bishop Mark MacDonald, The Anglican Journal, "*Faith Walking Together – A New Manifesto,*" June 2012 <http://www.anglicanjournal.com/articles/faith-walking-together>

_____ "Bishop Mark MacDonald", Anglican Church of Canada, *Concept Paper on Indigenous Governance* www.anglican.ca/im/files/2010/11/11.02-ACIPconceptpaperonIndigenousGovernance.pdf

Battiste, Marie. *Reclaiming Indigenous Voice and Vision*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2000.

Belanger, Yale D. *Ways of Knowing: An Introduction to Native Studies in Canada*. Nelson Education Ltd, Toronto Canada. 2018.

Calvin, John, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Canada, Minister of Supply and Services. "Highlights from the Report of the Royal Commission on Indigenous Affairs."

Carlson, Joyce (ed.), *Dancing the Dream: The First Nations and the Church in Partnership*. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1995.

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Deloria Jr, Vine. *God is Red: A Native View of Religion*. Fulcrum Publishing, Golden Colorado, 1994

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First Peoples Theology Journal, Volume 1 no 1, MacDonald, Mark, *The Church and Peoples of the Land*. Page 11-15, Minneapolis, MN: Indigenous Theological Training Institute, July 2000.

First Peoples Theology Journal, Volume 2 No 1 *Indigenous* Theological Training Institute. Creation and other Stories: McDonald, Mark, *God's Creation: - It's in the Font*, page 14-19, Minneapolis, MN, September 2001.

First Peoples Theology Journal 4. No 1, Doctor, Rev. Canon Ginny. *Remembering the Circle* Page 113-117. MacDonald, Mark. *The Gospel Comes to North America* Page 95-101. Minneapolis, MN: Indigenous Theological Training Institute, June 2006.

- Fiola, Chantal. *Returning to Ceremony: Spirituality in Manitoba Metis Communities*. University of Manitoba Press, Winnipeg Canada. 2022.
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- Millar, J. R. *Shingwauk's Vision: A History of Native Residential Schools*, Toronto Ontario, University of Toronto, 2009.
- Saul, John Ralston. *A Fair Country: Telling Truths About Canada*. Toronto: Viking Canada, 2008.
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- Treat, J. *Around the Sacred Fire: Native Religious Activism in the Red Power Era: A Narrative Map of the Indian Ecumenical Conference*. New York, Palgrave MacMillan, 2003.
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