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### NASX 231X.01: Indigenous World View Perspectives

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**INDIGENOUS WORLD VIEW PERSPECTIVES; Spring 2014**  
An Exploration Through Readings, Film and Discussion  
Native American Studies & Anthropology 231X Syllabus

Instructor: Neyooxet Greymorning

Class Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8:10- 9:30 NAC Room 201

Office & Hours: NAC Rm 203F, Mon/Wed 11:30-1:30

Alternate Hours, Thurs. 8:30- 10:00, by Appointment only

Office Phone: 243-6381

- I. Required readings for this course will be drawn from the following resources: Dancing with a Ghost, The Sacred, A Yupiaq Worldview.
- II. This course has been designed to introduce students to a **non-Western** perspective of Indigenous cultures, a task more complicated than it sounds. Lectures may come from resources other than the assigned readings, thus students not keeping up with each week's assignments will result in cognitively being clueless about the course material. Students should note that the course will be very challenging as it will require a very different way of looking at, organizing and coming to a level of understanding of several Indigenous cultures and worldviews from a non-western perspective.
- III. **Objective:** By the end of the course students will have examined and gained an appreciation of Indigenous belief systems, with regard to world views, religious ceremonies, cultural ways, and the impact that Anglo-European culture has had upon these systems. Examples will not be limited to any one particular group or region.
- IV. Course Requirements: You are expected to read all assigned chapters and have all video papers turned in on time. It has been calculated that reading assignments should only require approximately 8 hours of reading for the entire term. Reading assignments will help you understand the different worldviews you encounter. Assignments will require levels of serious critical thinking. If you believe assignments can be skimmed or taken lightly you should consider a different class as this may take more work and effort than expected.

- A. **Four Video Essays** (25 pts ea.). Each video essay should be between 600 - 700 words in length and should critically examine the idea or message and values, with regard to the worldview of the Indigenous peoples portrayed, that you believe the film writers are seeking to portray to viewing audiences.

**Worth 100 points**

- B. **Worldview Comparison Research Paper** This paper must be 2,000 - 2,200 words in length. Research the culture of the people represented in Kwagley's book Yupiaq Worldview, and compare and contrast worldview and cultural aspects with a second culture covered in class. **Any final paper graded 64 or less will be able to rewrite their paper on the provision that it was not turned in late. Any paper turned in 2 or more days late that receives a grade less than 65 will keep the grade received.**

**Worth 100 points**

**\*\*All video essays and the research paper must be turned in at time and due date noted on the syllabus. Any work turned in late will have 2 points deducted for each day late once past the time and date due.**

The final comparison research paper (assignment **B**) should be properly cited and referenced with a properly written and formatted bibliography or works cited section of no less than 6 references from six different resources, i. e. books, and journal articles. Those papers not adhering to the word length, bibliography and reference criteria will result in a lowered grade. All written assignments must also include **1) a beginning statement introduction the paper's focus or intent, 2) a main body supporting that focus or intent, and 3) concluding summary remarks or comments.** Any final paper turned in 7 days after the due date will not be read or graded. The final course grade will be based upon the grading system given below. Grades will not be curved; hence the points you have cumulatively earned will represent the grade you will receive at the end of the term.

- V. Final Grades: Grades are not curved. Final grades for all Students will be the cumulative graded results of all written assignments turned in.
- VI. Grading Scale: A = 181 – 200      B = 161 - 180      C = 141 -160      D = 130 - 140      F = 0 – 129

**INDIGENOUS WORLDVIEW PERSPECTIVES; Spring 2014**  
**NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES/ANTY 231X Syllabus**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Class Date</u></b>	<b><u>Focus &amp; Discussion Topics</u></b>	<b><u>Assigned Readings</u> with approx. reading time</b>
			<b><u>Dancing with a Ghost</u></b>
1	Jan. 27	Introduction and Course Overview	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chps 1- 3 (approx. 50 min.)
	Jan. 29	The Rules of Traditional Times	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chps 1- 3 (approx. 50 min.)
2	Feb. 3	Being Indian is a State of Mind	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chps 4 & 6 (approx. 45 min.)
	Feb. 5	The Sudden Losses	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chp 9 (approx. 75 min.)
		<b>Video 1: *Dance Me Outside (Canada)</b>	
3	Feb. 10	<b>Holiday No Class</b>	
	Feb. 12	<b>Video 1: *Dance Me Outside (Canada)</b>	<b><u>The Sacred Shamanism</u></b>
			<b><u>Read</u></b> pp 113-137 (approx. 60 min.)
4	Feb. 17	Shamanism Discussion	<b>A. 1<sup>st</sup> Video Essay Due Feb. 14, 6pm</b>
	Feb. 19	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Video Discussion</b>	<b><u>Read</u></b> pp 113-137
5	Feb. 24	<b>Video 2: *Rabbit Proof Fence (52)</b>	
	Feb. 26	<b>Video 2: *Rabbit Proof Fence (32) (Australia)</b>	<b>A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Video Essay Due Feb. 28, 6pm</b>
6	Mar. 3	Learning the Way: Traditional Education	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chp 3 (approx. 45 min.)
	Mar. 5	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Video Discussion</b>	
7	Mar. 10	<b>Video 3: *Whale Rider (44) (New Zealand)</b>	
	Mar. 12	<b>Video 3: *Whale Rider (54)</b>	<b>A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Video Essay Due Mar 14, 6pm</b>
8	Mar. 17	In the Name of the Father; breaking the Sacred hoop	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chp 6 (approx. 60 min.)
	Mar. 19	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Video Discussion</b> In the Name of the Father; breaking the Sacred Hoop	
9	Mar. 24	<b>Video: Ten Canoes (45) (Australia)</b>	
	Mar. 26	<b>Video: Ten Canoes (43)</b>	
10	Mar. 29	<b>VIDEO DISCUSSION</b> on Ten Canoes	
	Mar. 31	Bangarra – Fish (48) (Australia)	
10	Mar 31-Apr 6	<b><u>SPRING BREAK</u></b>	
11	Apr. 7	<b>Video: Drum Dance (42) (US)</b>	<b><u>Read</u></b> Chp 7 (approx. 40min)
	Apr. 9	Drum Dance Discussion (49)	A World out of Balance
12	Apr. 14	<b>Video 4: *Smoke Signals (36) (US)</b>	
	Apr. 16	<b>Video 4: *Smoke Signals (52)</b>	<b>A. 4<sup>th</sup> Video Essay Due Apr. 18, 6pm</b>
13.	Apr. 21	A World Out of Balance discussion	
	Apr. 23	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Video Discussion</b>	
14	Apr 28	<b>Video: Naturally Native (49) (US)</b>	
	Apr 30	<b>Video: Naturally Native (60)</b>	<b>B. Worldview Comparison Paper Due May 3</b>
15	May 5	<b>VIDEO DISCUSSION</b>	
	May 7	Spirit Journey (44) (US)	
16	May 12-17	<b>FINALS WEEK</b>	