Yukon University

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: David E N Silas B.Sc.
E-MAIL: dsilas@yukonu.ca
OFFICE HOURS: by appointment
CLASSROOM: A2603
TIME: 10:30 am to 12 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course addresses concepts of governance, management, accountability and leadership as they apply to Yukon First Nations. The history of governance and administration in Yukon First Nations communities will be explored, and theories of governance and administration will be evaluated in regard to aboriginal self-government and traditional culture in the Yukon. Concepts of ethics, accountability, and public participation will be considered. The course will review practical requirements of administration, such as legislation, policy, financial operations, and project management.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

None.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Students who successfully complete this course will have achieved core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. By the end of this course, students will have greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at:
https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit

AU POLI 311 (3)
UNBC FNST 1XX (3)
UVIC IS 200 lev (1.5)
VIU FNAT 1st (3)
UofA NS 1XX (3)

UofC INDG 311 (3)
U Lethbridge MGT 3590 (3) or NAS 3590 (3)

This course is recently re-developed, and its transferability may shift; receiving institutions always determine course transferability. Further information and assistance with transfers may be available from the School of Business and Leadership.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
• Define basic terms and concepts of governance and public administration and be able to apply them to First Nations governments.
• Describe how public administration provides a framework for understanding public institutions, bureaucracies, and their processes.
• Recognize the relationship between the principles of democracy and the practice of public administration, as well as the differences between public and private sector administration.
• Identify the legal and ethical concepts of public administration generally, and as they apply to First Nations.
• Analyze the impact of the political and social environment on the decision-making processes of governments.

COURSE FORMAT

The course is a blended format that includes an online scheduled class to attend by Zoom (see Moodle for link). Although all students will complete the same module of work at the same time, they may log-in and complete the class activities at any time during the week. Students that miss any of the in class activity will be able upload their individual contribution by end of each week (Sunday night).

Students are encouraged to use the resources provided in class as tools to support their course work. The instructor will aim to keep the course material interactive and varied.

Email and frequent Internet access are an important part of this course. The instructor will communicate through email and Yukon College's Learning Management System (Moodle). Using online tools and resources is a required part of this course.

Delivery format

The course will be delivered in am on-line format

ASSESSMENTS:
Module 1:
Group Discussion & Participation **(15%):** Throughout the weeks, students will be asked to engage in discussions/activities with each other as prompted by the instructor and using different apps (e.g. Zoom Breakout Rooms, Padlet and Discussion Boards). Weekly instructions will be provided by the instructor and those students that missed class will be able to upload their personal input by uploading their contribution to the discussion.

Governance-in-action (15%): It is so valuable to observe governance-in-action. In lieu of going out into the community and attending a public governance meeting in-person, students will browse the recordings of the Assembly of First Nations 40th Annual General Assembly available online and analyze the footage for what it

reveals about governance systems, making decisions together, and the power dynamics embedded within governance processes. Students will write a short reflection (300 words) responding to prompts provided by the instructor. See Moodle under the "Assignment" folder for detailed instructions and the due date.

Module 2:
Post-Video Journal (20%): Students will watch a series of recorded interviews with Indigenous cultural practitioners from across Turtle Island (North America) and the Pacific, who provide examples of Indigenous governance at various scales (from the individual to the nation). After watching each interview, students will write a journal entry on Moodle. The journal entries will be read by the instructor only. The journal is a space to note personal reflections, immediate thoughts, questions, and make connections to the other assigned readings or media.

Video Responses (15%): Students will pick three (of the seven) governance interviews and provide a more robust response by speaking to a set of prompts provided by the instructor. Students will use Flipgrid, a video discussion app, and post a 2–3-minute video that others in the class can watch and respond to. Each Flipgrid response is worth 5%. The prompts, detailed instructions, and due dates are available on Moodle under the "Assignments" folder.

Module 3
Final Project (35%): As a final project, students will make a creative flyer (single sided, small poster) that describes how governance systems work by highlighting a governance system they learned about in this course. The purpose of the exercise is to create something eye-catching, informative, and accessible to the general public. Students will share their flyers with each other via short video/audio clips posted to Moodle. More detailed instructions and the grade breakdown will be posted on Moodle.

EVALUATION

Group Discussion & Participation	15 %
Governance-in-Action	15 %
Post-Video Journal	20 %
Video Responses	15 %
Final Project: Governance Flyer	35 %
Total	**100%**

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates.

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

There is no textbook to purchase for this course. Readings will be provided online.
Access to a computer and word processing software is required. As a Yukon University student, you have access to Office 365 (including Word). Please see the IT help page for instructions on how to access Office 365 and download Word on your personal device.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodation is available for students requiring academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. This accommodation is available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Module	Week	Topic
Introduction & Key Concepts	1	Overview and Introduction to course and activities
	2	Traditional Indigenous Governance
	3	What is Governance?
	4	The Indian Act and Systems Thinking
	5	Body Sovereignty & Parenthood (Individual)
Indigenous Governance At Various Scales	6	Relationships as Governance (Interpersonal/Collective)
	7	Ross River Dena Council (Collective)
	8	Dechinta (Family/Collective)
	9	Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow (Collective)
	10	Wet'suwet'en Strong (Clan)
	11	Ku Kia'i Mauna: Hawaiian Sovereignty Movement (Collective/Nation)
	12	Final Project Preparation
Wrapping Up	13	Presentations
	14	Presentations - Last Day of Class (December 8, 2022)