NAS-280 Native American Philosophical Thought 3 credits

I. **Catalog Description:** Introduction to universal concepts of Native thought and values. Contrasts Native life ways with Western worldview of human superiority and material acquisition, and explores the notion of an ethical life as a perquisite for the attainment of spirituality. Focus on introspection and the Native development of mind in traditional forms of education.

II. **Prerequisites, pre-/co-requisites, co-requisites, recommended:** None

III. **Rationale for Course Level:** This course, students will think about and discuss difficult abstract notions. In many ways, there are not right or wrong answers for the questions that will be posed. Students will be required to express ideas coherently, at length, in writing.

IV. **Suggested Textbooks:**
   Instructor Course Pack contains:
   - Martinez, David. *Dakota Philosopher.*
   - Waters, Anne. *American Indian Thought*
   - Standing Bear, Luther, *Land of the Spotted Eagle,* Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1933

V. **Student Learning Course Objectives:**

   **Course Student learning outcomes**

   Upon satisfactory completion of this course, a student will be able to:

   1. Demonstrate cultural knowledge of other tribes beyond the Anishinaabek
   2. Exhibit basic knowledge of modern tribal histories and government in the overall context of Federal Indian Policy and the federal government’s history of Indian relations
   3. Reveal geographical knowledge Native tribes across the United States
   4. Demonstrate knowledge of historical and modern Native resistance movements in the U.S.

   **Native American Studies Goals**

   1. Students will be able to identify the impact of Native American historical experiences on contemporary Native American experiences
   2. Students will be able to compare and contrast the historical experiences and cultural expressions of the Anishinaabeg with other Native North Americans
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of Anishinaabe culture and traditional values.

SCTC Institutional Learning Goals

1. Students will demonstrate competency in reading, writing, oral communication, and numerical literacy
2. Students will be able to evaluated information
3. Students will consider multiple perspectives from the diversity of human experience.

VI. Suggested Course Outline:

**Week One**  Intro to philosophy;
**Week Two**  Begin To Become a Human Being (TBHB)
**Week Three** Three concepts from TBHB
Start reading Land of the Spotted Eagle (LSE)
**Week Four** QUIZ on TBHB
Intro to LSE
**Week Five**  Thought paper LSE
LSE
**Week Six** QUIZ LSE
**Week Seven**  Thought Paper LSE
**Week Eight**  Final Thought Paper on LSE
Begin reading God is Red (GIR)
**Week Nine**  Mid term
**Week Ten**  Thought Paper GIR
**Week Eleven**  Thought Paper GIR
**Week Twelve**  Thought Paper GIR
**Week Thirteen**  Thought Paper GIR; handout from Reincarnation Beliefs of North American Indians
**Week Fourteen** Intro to Reincarnation and NA
**Week Fifteen**  Thought Paper on Reincarnation
**Week Sixteen**  Final Paper Due

VIII. Suggested Course Evaluation:

During this course, students will think about and discuss difficult abstract notions. Philosophy gives no hard and fast answers, only logical arguments for or against questions that will be posed to you. Nevertheless, you will be required to express your ideas coherently, at length, in
writing. While the focus in this class will be primarily content rather than grammar, I will evaluate your papers in a manner consistent with college level writing.

Reading quizzes 5 @ 10 pts each
Thought Papers 8 @ 10 pts each
Final Paper 1@ 100 pts
Paper presentations 30 pts
Attendance 50 pts (Sliding scale minus 10pts per absence)
Attendance during class 50 pts
Final presentation 30 pts
Participation 25 pts (Extra)
Total Points available 250 pts

The following scale will be used to determine final letter grades:

94% -100% = A
90 – 93 = A-
87 – 89 = B+
83 – 86 = B
80 – 82 = B-
77 – 79 = C+
73 – 76 = C
70 – 72 = C-
67 – 69 = D+
63 – 66 = D
60 – 62 = D-
59% or less = F
IX. Bibliography


DeMallie, Raymond. The Six Grandfathers


Gutierrez, Ramon. 1991. When Jesus Came the Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage Sexuality and Power in New Mexico, 1500 to 1846. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.


Trachtenberg, Alan. The Incorporation of America. New York: Hill and Wang


Syllabus Prepared By:

(Signature of Faculty)__________________

Typed Name of Faculty, Credentials

(Date Syllabus Created/Updated if MCS Review)