

**St. Francis Xavier University  
Department of Sociology**

Sociology 330.00  
Lynes  
Fall/Winter, 2012  
Rm. 9-C

Dr. David  
Annex,

**Sociology of First Peoples**

This course is an introduction to the key issues surrounding Canada's First Peoples, with particular attention paid to the ongoing efforts to overcome and transcend the consequences of the country's colonial history. As a basis for understanding the current situations facing Canada's First Nations, the first part of the course will review the history of first contact, and continue to examine the various treaties and later, policies which have proven so deleteriously consequential to the culture and well-being of so many of the country's First Peoples.

The course's emphasis on history will be balanced by consideration of First Nation, Métis and Inuit contemporary challenges with issues of identity, city life and gender relations, land title and ownership, self-determination and self-government. The course will conclude with a consideration of Canadian Aboriginal Peoples within a more global context.

**Texts**

There are two required texts for this course:

Olive Patricia Dickason with William Newbigging, ***A Concise History of Canada's First Nations***, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2010).

James S. Frideres, René R. Gadacz, ***Aboriginal Peoples in Canada***, 9<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Toronto: Pearson, 2012).

Portions of both books will be assigned together on a regular basis. Both books will be available in the university book store. Used copies of these books may be available. Feel free to use these if you have access to them, but check that they are the current editions. Additional material will be made available on reserve in the library.

**Evaluation**

The course grade will be based on a series of progressively weighted written exercises distributed over the course of the term which are designed to promote the critical analysis of various forms of culturally available information,

conceptions and representations of first contact, colonialism, and post-colonial developments.

First Term Assignment.....	20%
Christmas Exam.....	20%
Second Term Presentation/Essay.....	25%
Participation.....	10%
Final Exam.....	25%

### **Class Format**

The class format and the speed at which the material is covered will be open for revision as the course progresses. However, the aim will always be to pursue the work within the context of open class discussions and exercises, in addition to lectures and presentations. **Please Note:** Attendance is especially important for this course as the in-class discussions are essential to the course objectives.

### **Office Hours**

My office is in room 9-C in the Annex. Office hours are as follows (First term only):

Tuesday: 2:30 -- 4:00  
Wednesday: 12:00 -- 2:00

If I am not in the office due to meeting or other responsibilities, please leave a message and I will get back to you. Other times can be arranged by appointment if you are unable to make those listed. Contact me by phone or by e-mail with course-related questions or to arrange a meeting. Phone: 867-3802. E-mail: [dlynes@stfx.ca](mailto:dlynes@stfx.ca).

Finally, please feel free to drop in at any time during the semester to discuss any aspect of the course, your progress, or the Sociology program more generally.

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**First Term Reading Schedule**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Texts: Dickason</b>	<b>Frideres</b>
September 6	Introduction	
September 10-13	Chpt. 1: p. 13-24	
September 17-20 24	Chpt. 2: p. 25-43	Chpt. 1: p. 1-
September 24-27 36	Chpt. 3: p. 44-64	Chpt. 2: p. 25-
October 1-4 52	Chpt. 4: p. 65-86	Chpt. 2: p. 36-
October 11	Chpt. 5: p. 87-101	
October 15-18* 65	Chpt. 6: p. 102-116	Chpt. 3: p. 53-
October 22-25 78	Chpt. 7: p. 117-136	Chpt. 3: p. 66-
October 29-Nov. 1† 92	Chpt. 8: p. 137-147	Chpt. 3: p. 79-
November 5-8 103	Chpt. 9: p. 148-164	Chpt. 4: p. 93-
November 12-15 104-115	Chpt. 10: p. 165-185	Chpt. 4: p.
November 19-22 115-128	Chpt. 11: p. 186-202	Chpt. 4: p.

November 26-29  
129-141

Chpt. 12: p. 203-222

Chpt. 5: p.

\* The term Assignment will be distributed on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

† **The Assignment is due on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.**