

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 320 - NATIVE AMERICAN AUTO/BIOGRAPHY

Prepared By: Nadine N. Jennings, PhD

Revised MAY 2015

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH/ HUMANITIES
MAY 2015**

- A. **TITLE:** Native American Auto/Biography
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 320
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Determined by Semester
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall or Spring or Both
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course is a survey of the means by which Native American people have recorded their lives. Texts are selected from pre-contact pictorial and oral auto/biographical narratives through contemporary written texts, film, and electronic media. Historical context is provided in lecture materials. Emphasis is on works published since 1980.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
- a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101: Expository Writing OR ENGL 102: Oral and Written Expression AND one lower-level literature course AND 30 credit hours earned OR permission of the instructor.
- b. Co-requisite(s): course name or none
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
a. Discuss Native American culture regions and explain that there is not one pan-Indian Native American culture.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
b. Identify and describe categories of Native American autobiography;	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
c. Examine historical events from Native American points of view rather than Anglo-American points of view;	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking 4. Inter-Intrapersonal skills
d. Compare autobiographical writings by Native writers in order to interpret the diversity of the Native American experience;	2. Crit. Thinking

e. <i>Compare</i> autobiographical writings by Native writers in order to identify cultural difference from the American mainstream as a factor in the Native American experience;	2. Crit. Thinking 4. Inter- Intrapersonal skills
f. <i>Compare</i> autobiographical writings by Native writers in order to determine common themes, issues, and experiences.	2. Crit. Thinking 4. Inter- Intracultural skills

K. TEXTS:

Representative texts

- Alexie, Sherman. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. New York: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 1, 2009)
- Hogan, Linda. *Dwellings*. W. W. Norton, 2007.
- Krupat, Arnold. *Native American Autobiography: An Anthology*. U of Wisconsin P, 1994.
- Mankiller, Wilma. *Mankiller: A Chief and Her People*. St. Martin's, 1999.
- Texts are supplemented with several web-based reading assignments

L. REFERENCES:

Interviews with elders and:

- Bataille, Gretchen M. and Kathleen Mullen Sands. *American Indian Women: Telling Their Lives*. Lincoln: U of Nebraska P, 1984.
- Smith, Linda Tuhiwai. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. New York: Zed Books, 1999.
- Thornton, Russell, ed. *Studying Native America: Problems and Prospects*. Madison: U of WI P, 1998.
- Tillett, Leslie. *Wind on the Buffalo Grass: Native American Artist Historians*. New York: Plunum-DaCapo, 1976.
- Vizenor, Gerald. *Interior Landscapes: Autobiographical Myths and Metaphors*. Minneapolis: U of MN P, 1990.

M. EQUIPMENT: technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: (must use the outline format listed below)

- I. Native American Culture Regions
- II. Native American History
 - A. Mankiller
- III. Reservation era Autobiography
 - A. Geronimo
- IV. Literary Autobiography
 - A. Momaday
- V. "Post 1960s Ethnographic Accounts"
 - A. Student research
- VI. Contemporary Memoir
 - A. Hogan
- VII. Contemporary Autobiographical Fiction
 - A. Alexie

- Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:** (If the course has a designated laboratory session this **MUST** be completed, follow the format for the detailed course outline listed above)