Course Description:

This course will analyze specific themes critical to the understanding of indigenous ways of knowing and the impact of colonialism. We will explore the major factors contributing to the intellectual history of Indigenous America and the contemporary ecological and environmental concerns. The course addresses questions of de-colonization, values, and raising consciousness for balanced living including a discussion of efficient energy use, an evaluation of health risks, and concerns for a sustainable community. Topics include: how perceptions of nature have changed across cultures and over time, how media affects the contemporary American experience both within our inner human nature and the natural world, water and its importance in daily life, and how we experience ourselves and the world. Lectures will be based on the course readings.

Course Requirements:

Class participation is mandatory along with working in a group. Groups will discuss readings on a daily basis and select a member of the group to present to the class the highlights of their discussion (this will be further discussed in class). This requires that each student read and prepare before each class session. A 3-paged abstract will be due during midterms. This abstract will be an outline of your final essay. The final paper must be written in essay format and will focus on readings, lectures, or other class material. Your final paper will be 10-pages and should provide a synthesis based on what you have learned in this course and provide a conclusion for further research. Students will give a 5 minute presentation of their final papers individually on the day assigned by the instructor (in alphabetical order by last name). Everyone must be present during all the oral presentations. Papers are to be turned in before presenting. Late papers will not be accepted.

Grading:

Required attendance and group report on daily discussion = 10%
Abstract (5 pages) = 10%
Final Paper (15 pages) = 35%
Oral Presentation = 35%
Required Texts:


Course Lectures and Readings:

January 16th: Course Introduction

January 18th: READING DUE: Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*. Chapters 1, 2, 3

January 23rd: READING DUE: Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*. Chapters 4, 5, 6

January 25th: READING DUE: Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*. Chapters 9, 10, 11

January 30th: READING DUE: Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*. Chapters 12, 14, 15, 16

February 1st: FILM: *In The Light of Reverence* (Film)

February 6th: READING DUE: Anderson, *Tending the Wild*. Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 3

February 8th: READING DUE: Anderson, *Tending the Wild*. Chapters 4, 5, 6


February 15th: READING DUE: Nelson, *Make Prayers to the Raven*. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4

February 20th: READING DUE: Nelson, *Make Prayers to the Raven*. Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9


February 27th: FILM: *Make Prayers to the Raven*: Forest of Eyes AND Grandpa Joe’s Country

March 1st: Oral Presentations and Final Papers due

March 6th: Oral Presentations and Final Papers due
March 8\textsuperscript{th}: Oral Presentations and Final Papers due

March 13\textsuperscript{th}: Oral Presentations and Final Papers due

March 15\textsuperscript{th}: Review