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**FORESTRY/INDIGENOUS LEARNING 2054—  
ABORIGINAL PEOPLES & NATURAL RESOURCES  
SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor:** Dr. M.A. (Peggy) Smith, R.P.F., BB101

**Teaching Assistant:**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This course will provide an overview of Aboriginal Peoples and natural resources, with emphasis on Aboriginal participation in forest management. Sustainable forest management includes the recognition and protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights and a commitment to increase Aboriginal participation in the forest sector. Topics covered include:

- historical and modern-day treaties and their impacts on forest management;
- what it means to incorporate Aboriginal and treaty rights in forest management;
- Aboriginal Peoples' relationship to forest land and resources;
- policy developments and practices related to Aboriginal forest issues at international, national, regional and local levels; and
- Aboriginal Peoples' relationships with provincial and federal governments and stakeholder groups such as environmental non-governmental organizations, the forest industry and forest dependent communities.

## **APPROACH**

Based on the attached framework for Aboriginal Peoples and the Forest Environment, the course will address five broad arenas of Aboriginal peoples' interests in forest lands: 1) historical; 2) legal/political; 3) economic; 4) spiritual/cultural; and 5) institutional. In lectures the instructor, guest speakers or students will address topics related to these broad areas. Students will identify an area of interest and will work individually and in groups to develop knowledge of the area. Lab sessions will involve an initial field trip, then exploring historical and legal issues and how the Province of Ontario deals with Aboriginal issues in forest management. Later in the lab schedule, students will give group presentations.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Identify agreements between governments and Aboriginal peoples and describe how those agreements affect natural resource management and conservation
- Describe the nature of Aboriginal and treaty rights and explain their relevance to natural resource management and conservation
- Link Supreme Court of Canada court decisions to Aboriginal rights and their impact on natural resource management and conservation
- Describe policy initiatives at international, national, regional and local levels that affect Aboriginal peoples' involvement in natural resource management and conservation
- Demonstrate knowledge of the various actors involved in natural resource management and conservation and how they interact with Aboriginal peoples

- Describe the roles and responsibilities of governments in relation to Aboriginal peoples and lands and resources and analyse how these relationships affect Aboriginal peoples' involvement in natural resource management and conservation
- Describe issues from the perspectives of different actors involved, including Aboriginal peoples, governments, industry, and non-governmental organizations

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS & MARKING SCHEME

ASSIGNMENT		MARK
Term Paper	Choose topic	No mark
	Annotated bibliography	10%
	1 <sup>st</sup> draft	No mark
	Peer review	5%
	Final draft	25%
Seminar Presentation (groups of 2)	Oral component	10%
	Written critical review	15%
Lab Reports (Historical, Legal & Ontario FMP)		10%
Final Exam		25%

Penalty for late submission of assignments: 2% per day late.

**LAB REPORTS (3 worth 10%):** Lab assignments will be posted on WebCT. They cover Historic Treaties, Legal Issues and Aboriginal Issues in Ontario Forest Management Planning. Submit your written answers to questions posed in the assignments. Lab reports are due the week following the lab.

**TERM PAPER (25%):** The term paper is the most significant piece of work you will produce during this course. The final product should be well researched and well written, following the format laid out in the Faculty of Forestry & the Forest Environment Writing Manual and Style Guide or alternative style manual for non-Forestry students. The term paper will be prepared in steps:

- 1) Choose a topic.
- 2) Prepare an annotated bibliography on your topic (see below).
- 3) First draft to be handed to another student for peer review.
- 4) Peer review to be completed and handed back to student author.
- 5) Final draft submitted to instructor for marking:

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY (10%):** Research and writing papers is a major part of your university education, and writing will be a major part of your career. The annotated bibliography is the first step in preparing a good academic paper. We will learn about using the Library for academic research and you will prepare an annotated bibliography with 10 sources, at least five of them from academic, peer-reviewed related to a topic you will choose for your term paper. You will critically analyze the sources related to your topic, as a first step in completing your term paper. For some good background on "Critically Analyzing Information Sources", see <http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/research/skill26.htm> (Cornell University Library 2004). See also separate handout.

**SEMINAR GROUP PRESENTATIONS (25%):** You will present a group seminar (30 minutes maximum), including a discussion period. Seminar topics and groups will be chosen in lab. Marks for the oral component (10%) will be based on both peer and instructor review. Each individual in the group will also provide a written critique (15%) of a peer-reviewed article (can be a chapter from the course text) related to your topic. See handout and mark template on Written Critical Review.

**EXAM (25%):** The exam will help the instructor to assess how well you understood the concepts covered during the term.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Anderson, Robert B. and Robert M. Bone. 2009. Natural Resources and Aboriginal People in Canada: Readings, Cases and Commentary. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Captus Press, Concord, ON. 586 pp.

Compiled by Peggy Smith & students, 2003  
 Faculty of Forestry & the Forest  
 Environment, Lakehead University

**ABORIGINAL PEOPLES AND THE  
 FOREST ENVIRONMENT**

