

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Center for Cross-Cultural Studies
Alaska Native Knowledge Network
UAF Summer Session
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

ED 610—Education and Cultural Processes

SUMMER, 2008
June 16–July 2
Old U Park School, Rm. 150 (9-12 am)

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Course Description

The course will acquaint students with ways in which culture influences our understanding of the world around us and our role in it. Particular attention will be given to cultural processes associated with learning, education and schooling, especially as they are reflected in Alaska Native contexts.

Course Requirements

The first and last week of the course will utilize a seminar format and will rely primarily on group discussions led by the instructor, students, and occasional guest speakers. The middle week of the class will take place at the site of Old Minto, under the tutelage of the Elders and residents of new Minto. Students are expected to read the assigned readings each day and participate in the subsequent discussions.

In addition to the assigned readings, students will be expected to complete the following tasks for the course:

1. Prepare a one-page paper after the first day of class in which you summarize your view regarding the ways in which culture influences what goes on in schools. This paper should be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of the third day of class.
2. Maintain a journal during the seven days at Old Minto documenting the experiences and insights that are accumulated as the camp progresses. These “field notes” should be entered as often as necessary (at least once a day) and should provide a running account of what you did and what you learned while at camp. The journal should be submitted to the instructor at the end of the course, along with the final paper.

3. Participate in a group presentation during the last week of class on one of a selection of videos that will be made available by the instructor for preview any time during the course.
4. Prepare a 5–8 page final paper in which you apply what you have learned in this course to some aspect of your work as an educator in Alaska. The topic should be reviewed with the instructor sometime during the time at Old Minto and the paper should be submitted, along with the journal, on the last day of class.

Course Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the following basis:

Participation in class discussion	30%
Group report on videotape	20%
One page paper and field notes	20%
Final project	30%

Course Outline and Readings

Students should have the following books on hand for the course:

- Madison—*Peter John, Minto*
- Napoleon—*Yuuyaraq: The Way of the Human Being*
- Kawagley—*A Yupiaq World View: A Pathway to Ecology and Spirit (2nd ed.)*
- Nelson—*Make Prayers to the Raven*
- Wilson—*Gwitch'in Native Elders: Not Just Knowledge, But a Way of Looking*
- Peter John—*The Gospel According to Peter John*
- ANKN—*Curriculum Resources for the Alaskan Environment (CD-ROM)*
- Stephens—*Handbook for Culturally Responsive Science Curriculum*

The assigned topics and readings for the course are as follows:

- June 16 • Introductions/Overview
- Double M Productions—“To Show What We Know” (video)
 - NSBSD—“The Time Weavers” (video)
- 17 • Napoleon - *Yuuyaraq: The Way of the Human Being*
- Kawagley—*A Yupiaq World View* (Introduction, Chap. 1-2 and Appendix)
 - AKRSI—“Old Minto Cultural Camp” (video)
- 18 • Mercurieff—“Western Society’s Linear Systems and Aboriginal Cultures”
- Kawagley, et al—“The Indigenous Worldview of Yupiaq Culture”
 - Barnhardt/Kawagley—“Indigenous Knowledge Systems . . .”
 - Madison—“Songs of Minto Life” (video)
- 19 • Madison/Yarber - *Peter John, Minto*
- Barnhardt, C.—“Tuning-In: Athabaskan Teachers and Athabaskan Students”

- Scollon—“Interethnic Communication”
 - Madison—“Hitting Sticks - Healing Hearts” (video)
 - Meet with Robert Charlie/Picnic at Old Univ. Park School (6:00 pm)
- 20 • Kawagley—*A Yupiaq World View* (Chapters 3-5)
- Barnhardt, R.—“Culture, Community and the Curriculum”
 - Scollon—“The Axe Handle Academy”
 - Madison—“Tanana River Rat” (video/tentative)
- June 22–28 • Making camp and living off the land at Old Minto
- Nelson—*Make Prayers to the Raven*
 - Wilson—*Gwitch’in Native Elders*
 - Peter John—*The Gospel According to Peter John*
- June 30 • Nelson—“Principles of Koyukon World View”
- ANKN—“Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools”
 - Stephens—“Handbook for Culturally Responsive Science Curriculum”
 - ANKN—*Curriculum Resources for the Alaskan Environment (CD-ROM)*
- July 1 • Nelson—“Nature and the Koyukon Tradition”
- Barnhardt, R.—“Two Cultures, One School: St. Mary’s, Alaska”
 - ANKN— Native values posters
 - Barnhardt, R.—“Teaching/Learning Across Cultures: Strategies for Success”
- 2 • ANKN—“Cultural Frameworks for Integrating Curriculum”
- Kawagley/Barnhardt, R.—“Education Indigenous to Place”
 - Barnhardt, R.—“Creating a Place for Indigenous Knowledge in Education”
 - ANKN—“Guidelines for Respecting Cultural Knowledge”