



**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
FAIRBANKS
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Alaska Native Knowledge Network

CCS/ED 613 - ALASKA STANDARDS FOR CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE SCHOOLS

Course Syllabus

Course Purposes

1. To examine the cultural considerations that come into play as indigenous people become involved with Western forms of education.
2. To explore the ways in which indigenous educational forms and practices have been incorporated in education institutions by Native people around the world.
3. To examine the knowledge systems, ways of knowing and world views indigenous people have drawn upon in addressing their education needs.
4. To examine what students need to know and be able to do to function in a culturally balanced way.
5. To examine what teachers need to know and be able to do to function in a culturally responsive way.
6. To explore the issues and practices associated with a culturally responsive curriculum.
7. To review the policies, programs and practices by which a school may be judged to be responsive to the cultural needs of the students and communities it serves.
8. To examine the role of the community as an important contributor to the cultural and educational well being of its children.

Course Description

The course will provide participants with guidelines, rationale and resources for adapting educational policies, programs and practices to better address the cultural well-being of the students and communities they serve. The course content will be grounded in the "Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools," including standards for students, teachers, curriculum, schools and communities.

Course Requirements

The course will utilize a seminar format and will rely primarily on readings, written assignments and group discussions led by the instructor, students, and occasional guest speakers. Students are expected to read the assigned materials before each seminar and participate in the subsequent discussions.

In addition to the assigned readings and participating in discussions, students are expected to complete the following tasks for the course:

1. Prepare five one-page papers in which you critique or elaborate on a reading or issue drawn from each of the discussion topics listed below. Choose a reading or issue (from each topical area) that is of interest to you and, in no more than one page, describe how that item might have relevance or significance for you. Each of these papers should be submitted shortly after the date of the seminar on the respective topic.
2. Using the Cultural Standards document as a reference point, prepare a 3-5 page paper discussing the process by which an individual teacher or a whole school might go about adapting practices, programs and policies to address the intent of the standards. This paper should be turned in at the midpoint of the course.
3. Prepare a 7–10 page final paper in which you apply some aspect of the Cultural Standards to some aspect of education in Alaska. The topic should be something of use to you, and should be cleared with the instructor by midpoint of the course.

Course Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the following basis:

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|------------------------------|-----|
| Participation in discussions | 20% |
| Five one-page papers | 25% |
| Cultural analysis paper | 25% |
| Final paper | 30% |

Course Outline and Readings

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

Unit 1 - Introduction and Overview

Napoleon - *Yuuyaraq: The Way of the Human Being*

Kawagley - *A Yupiaq World View*

Hampton - "Toward a Redefinition of American Indian/Alaska Native Education"

AEPS - "The Participation of Indigenous Peoples....."

Alaska Natives Commission - "Alaska Native Education: Final Report"

Merculieff - "Western Society's Linear Systems and Aboriginal Cultures"

Alaska Department of Education - "Alaska Standards"

Unit 2 - Integrating Culture into Educational Programs, Policies and Practices

Deloria - *Indian Education in America*

Darnell & Hoem - *Taken to Extremes: Education in the Far North*

Barnhardt - "Two Cultures, One School: St. Mary's, Alaska"

Metge - "Te Kohao O Te Ngira/Culture and Learning: Educ. for a Multicult. Society"

Barnhardt - "Culture, Community and the Curriculum"

Dubbs - "Cultural Definitions and Educational Programs"

Unit 3 - Cultural Standards for Students

Madison - *Peter John, Minto*

Yupiktak Bista - "Education and the Subsistence Way of Life"

Christensen - "Inupiat Ilitqusiat: To Save Our Land and Our People"

Inupiat Ilitqusiat, et al - Examples of Alaska Native Cultural Values

Gaffney - "Nonformal Educational Strategies for Rural Development in Native Alaska"

Unit 4 - Cultural Standards for Teachers

Alaska Rural Systemic Initiative - "Old Minto Camp 1996" (video tape)

NSBSD - "On the Wings of Tomorrow" and "The Time Weavers" (video tape)

Barnhardt, R. - "Teaching/Learning Across Cultures: Strategies for Success"

Scollon - "The Axe Handle Academy"

Barnhardt, C. - "Tuning-In: Athabaskan Teachers and Athabaskan Students"

Unit 5 - Cultural Standards for Curriculum

Barnhardt/Tonsmeire - *Lessons Taught/Lessons Learned, Vol. I*

Diamondstone and Barnhardt - *Curriculum Resources for the Alaskan Environment*

Murphy/Rutherford - *Alaska Framework: Using Standards to Build Educational Excellence*

Baffin Divisional Board of Education - "Piniqtaut Integrated Program"

NWT - "Dene Kede Curriculum: Teacher's Resource Manual"

NWT - "Inuuqatigiit: The Curriculum from the Inuit Perspective"

Quinhagak/Charlie - "Kuingnerrarmiut Yugtaat Elitnaurarkait"

Ongtooguk - "Their Silence About Us: The Absence of Alaska Natives in Curriculum"

Unit 6 - Cultural Standards for Schools

Barnhardt - "Administrative Influences in Alaska Native Education"

Grubis and Oomittuk - "A Point Hope Partnership With the Inupiat Elders of Tikigaaq"

Barnhardt - "Power From the People: Indigenous Initiatives in Education and Dev."

Dubbs and Barnhardt - "The Log School: A Case for Appropriate Design"

Kawagley and Barnhardt - "Education Indigenous to Place"

Unit 7 - Cultural Standards for Communities

Wallis - *Two Old Women*

Wilson - *Gwitchin Elders: Not Just Knowledge, But a Way of Looking at the World*

WCIPE - "Coolongata Statement on Indigenous Peoples Education Rights"

Barnhardt - "Theory Z + N: The Role of Alaska Natives in Administration"

Madsen - "Decision-Making in Rural Alaskan Communities"

Barnhardt - "Culturally Responsive Institutions for Minority People"

Kirkness and Barnhardt - "First Nations and Higher Education: The Four R's"