COURSE DESCRIPTION
INT510 - Indigenous Awareness 101: Becoming Indigenous Friendly in your Life and Ministry
Vancouver School of Theology SUMMER 2019

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PURPOSE: New comers to North American have been captivated by Indigenous people. This course aims at helping build a healthy respect for Indigenous identity as “other” neither vilifying or idealizing but seeking to become an ally. To this end the learner will be guided to explore the topics of Indigenous religion and spirituality (Indigenizing theology); treaties ancient and contemporary (Indigenous Story and Land and the role of preaching); a brief history of the interaction between the Church and Indigenous people (The Indigenous Christ); finally, the history of reconciliation in Canada (Indigenous conceptions of identity and evangelism). The learner will develop a healthy respect for Indigenous people to help build a climate of collaboration within the learner’s life and that of their community.

EXPECTATIONS AND COMPETENCE OBJECTIVES:
1. Define the broad parameters of Indigenous Spirituality with accuracy and respect.
2. Begin to discuss, articulate, formulate and critique the questions that are used to explore Indigenous spirituality. (i.e. are we being fair?)
3. Begin to be able to compare and contrast Indigenous Spiritualties.
4. Document the environmental, cultural, and historical influences shaping the relationship between Indigenous and New Comers.
5. Discuss ways of partnership between Indigenous People and New comers.
6. Begin to integrate and articulate one’s own views of de-colonizing or Indigenizing identity.

REQUIRED READINGS:


Assorted Essays.

ASSIGNMENTS
1. Reading and class participation: All Students including auditors are expected to do all the required readings and participate in class discussions. 100% attendance is required of Certificate and Degree students.
2. Certificate students: Certificate students are required to hand in 5-6 pages of writing that demonstrates the ability to thoughtfully engage the material and reading for the class and gives a personal reflection on the reading and material covered.
3. Basic degree students (Diploma; MA; M.Div): are required to do any required oral assignments during the course itself and submit any combination of written assignments totaling approximately 1500-1875 words/6-8 pages.

*Further details about assignments will be provided on the course syllabus.*