

ANTH 3100: Indigenous Landscapes Seminar

Instructor: Jim Igoe, [jji2e@virginia.edu]

Office: 300 Brooks Hall **Office Hours:** Tuesday-11am-12pm, Wednesday – 2pm-3pm, and by appointment

Course Description: This seminar engages indigenous landscapes, as spaces of cultural production, land rights advocacy, and environmental care. Indigenous landscapes correspond to ancestral territories of indigenous communities, and have also been shaped by colonial conquest, extractive enterprise, and nature conservation. Their contemporary status as “scapes” is essential to official recognition of indigenous claims to territory, though frequently out of step with indigenous lifeworlds. We will learn about how different peoples contend with these paradoxical situations, in pursuit of self-determination, sustainable livelihoods, and community flourishing. We will focus on the following specific landscapes: 1. The Maasai Steppe in Northern Tanzania; 2. The Western Cape of South Africa; 3. The Waikato River in Aotearoa/New Zealand; 4. Arnhem Land in Northern Australia; 5. The Dakotas in the United States; 5. and 6. Central Virginia in the United States. We will continuously revisit course material relative to emergent themes.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand and describe the historical interactions of indigeneity with anti-colonial struggles, globalization (broadly construed); and mutual recognition across time and place;
2. Undertake critical analyses of the landscape concept and its significance for colonial encounters, environmental politics, and human relationships to more-than-human worlds;
3. Articulate informed comparative accounts of indigenous struggles for self-determination with necessary conceptual tools for approaching unfamiliar case-material;
4. Relate our engagements with the course materials to current academic conversations around questions of epistemology and ontology, with particular reference to indigenous perspectives;
5. Relate ideas and insights from the course to the contemporary situation at the University of Virginia.

Commitments and Expectations

My main commitments for this seminar are to provide a nurturing, stimulating, and rigorous environment in which we can explore, learn, and do theory in productive conversations. I consider it my responsibility to facilitate and guide those discussions, and to ensure that not only are they are productive, interesting, and mutually respectful. I also consider it my responsibility to answer any questions you have to the best of my ability, and to provide help, guidance, and mentoring for anyone struggling with the material. As this is an advanced course, I expect a high level of student commitment. Minimally this means reading this syllabus and knowing what it says, doing careful and close readings of the course material, and showing up prepared to participate. I also encourage you to let me know if you find yourself in need of help.

Course Requirements

You will be evaluated as follows (**please refer to relevant handouts for details**):

1. **Attendance** – Because this is discussion-based class, it is necessary for students to attend in order to benefit from, and contribute meaningfully to, the class. Two unexcused absences will be allowed. Each additional unexcused absence will reduce your final grade by 3 percentage points.
2. **Participation (20%)** – Each Thursday we will convene discussion groups related to that week's topic and case material. It will be especially important to attend on those days. Students will be evaluated according to their participation in, and contributions to, these weekly discussions.
3. **Film Responses and Discussion Questions (30%)** – Each week, on Thursday, you will need to bring a **hard copy** of this assignment. Your submission each week should consist of a short response to that week's film, which you will need to view ahead of time. On weeks that we do not have films, an alternative prompt will be provided. You will also submit two questions to pose to your discussion group.
4. **Virginia Engagements (20%)** – One of the main goals of this seminar is to engage with the Commonwealth of Virginia, and especially the University of Virginia. This assignment will invite you to use ideas and experiences from the seminar to better understand contemporary indigenous landscapes in these contexts. It will require you to undertake explorations beyond the classroom, by visiting places, talking to people and/or researching current events and initiatives in the Commonwealth.
5. **Take Home Essays (30%)** – These essays will require you to synthesize key concepts and cases. Prompts will be provided in the last week of November. Essays will be due after the end of the term.

Course Materials:

There is **one required book** for this course, which is

-- Gilio-Whitaker (2019) *As Long as the Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice from Colonization to Standing Rock*, Boston: Beacon Press.

Additional required readings are available in Collab in the Resources Folder.

Required films and videos can be streamed and should be watched outside of class. Links for these films and videos are posted to Collab. Please be sure to consult with the library if you plan to stream UVA-owned films from anywhere off grounds, as this requires downloading licensed streaming software.

Please Note: I reserve the right to adjust the scheduled readings should I find it necessary. If so, I will be sure to provide ample notification and post any new readings to Collab.

Date	Topic	Readings & Films
WEEK 1		
Tuesday August 27th	Course Introduction	No Required Readings or Films
Thursday August 29th	Beginning a Conceptual Conversations	Kyle Powys Whyte – Indigeneity Andrew Gray – Indigenous Peoples & Their Territories
WEEK 2		
Tuesday September 3rd	Serengeti Struggles	Moringe Parkipuny – The Human Rights Situation of Indigenous Peoples in Africa Manuela Zips-Mairitsch -- Nature Conservation vs. Human Rights Protection Film: A Place without People
Thursday September 5th	Serengeti Struggles	Roderick Neumann – Ways of Seeing Africa Oakland Institute – Losing the Serengeti
WEEK 3		
Tuesday September 10th	Mapping and Making Maasai Landscapes	Jim Igoe – National Parks and Human Ecosystems
Thursday September 12th	Continuing Conceptual Conversations	Barbara Bender – Place and Landscape
Week 4		
Tuesday September 17th	Cape Khoisan Kalahari Connections African Consciousness	Monishia Schoeman – Khoisan History X Henrick Ernston – The Political Nature of Urban Wetlands Film: One Table Two Elephants
Thursday September 19th	Cape Khoisan Kalahari Connections African Consciousness	Richard Lee – Twenty-First Century Indigenisms Steve Biko – Let's Talk About Bantustans Rafael Verbuyst – Claiming Cape Town
WEEK 5		

Tuesday September 24th	Diasporic Indigeneity	Robbie Shilliam – Black Aotearoa Film: Mount Zion
Thursday September 26th	Diasporic Indigeneity	James Clifford: Varieties of Indigenous Experience: Diasporas, Homelands, Sovereignities
Week 6		
Tuesday October 1st	Neoliberalism & Te Reo Maori	Linda Tuhiwai Smith – The Native and the Neoliberal Down Under Māori Television – Water Obligations
Thursday September 3rd	Tupuna Awa	Marama Muru-Lanning – Māori Research Collaborations Toon van Meijl – Doing Indigenous Epistemology
WEEK 7		
NO CLASS – Fall Reading Days		
WEEK 8		
Tuesday October 15th	Landscapes, Dreaming, and Spatialized Ethics,	Hinoru Hokari – Images of Australian Colonialism
Thursday September 17th	Landscapes and Representation	Fred Meyers – The Dreaming: Time & Space Film: Putuparri and the Rainmakers
WEEK 9		
Tuesday October 22nd	Aboriginal Artsapes	Will Stubbs: A Short History of Yolngu Activist Art Djon Mudine – Saltwater Howard Morphy: Now You Understand Fred Meyers: Emplacement and Displacement
Thursday October 25th	Aboriginal Mediascapes	Jennifer Deger – Seeing the Invisible

WEEK 10		
Tuesday October 29th	Continuing a Conceptual Conversation	Francesca Merlan – Indigeneity as Relational Identity
Thursday October 31st	Praxis of Place-Thought	Bawaka Country -- Goŋ Gurtha Vanessa Watts – Indigenous Place-Thought and Agency
WEEK 11		
Tuesday November 5th	Settlers, Sovereignty, and Space	Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz – This Land Thomas Biolsi – Sovereignty, Indigenous Space, and American Indian Struggles Film: In Light of Reverence
Thursday November 7th	Indigenous Environmental Justice	<i>As Long as the Grass Grows</i> (p.1 through p.52) Ryan Emanuel – Flawed Environmental Justice Video: Mni Wiconi
WEEK 12		
Tuesday November 12th	Water Protectors Caring for Country	<i>As Long as the Grass Grows</i> (p.53 through p.110) Ryan Emanuel – Water in a Lumbee World Film: Beyond Standing Rock
Thursday November 14th		<i>As Long as the Grass Grows</i> (p.111 through p.162)
WEEK 13		
Tuesday November 19th	Racist Legacies and Indigenous Futures in the Commonwealth Both 3100/7100 Meet Together on This Week @ Regular Class Time	Paul Hardin – Documentary Genocide Fiske – The Black and White World of Walter A. Plecker Gonzalez, Kertesz, and Tayak – Eugenics as Indian Removal Samuel Cook – The Monacan Indian Nation

Thursday November 21st	No Class – AAAs	No Class – AAAs
WEEK 14		
Tuesday November 26th	TBD	TBD
Thursday November 28th	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving
WEEK 15		
Tuesday December 3rd	TBD	TBD
Thursday December 6th	TBD	TBD