

## Course Description Form

Course number and section: English 234 / Cultural Studies 250

Course Topic: Foundations: Indigenous Literature

Credits: 3

Term: 2

Instructor: Dr. Allison Hargreaves

### Course Description:

This course offers a survey of contemporary Indigenous literatures and criticism (including fiction, poetry, non-fiction prose, graphic storytelling, memoir, visual art, and more). Our goal is to become better acquainted with Indigenous literary and cultural production as intersecting with ongoing critical debates in the field. Rejoining Indigenous literary critics who understand story as having the power to “change the course of events in both the material and the spiritual worlds” (Jo-Ann Episkenew, *Taking Back Our Spirits*), the course charts different models for responsible literary-critical practice and surveys the analytical, pedagogical, and transformative properties of Indigenous literature itself.

### Tentative Reading List:

*A Girl Called Echo* (graphic novel by Métis writer Katherena Vermette)

*Bad Indians: A Tribal Memoir* (memoir by Ohlone-Costanoan Esselen writer Deborah Miranda)

*Empire of Wild* (novel by Métis writer Cherie Dimaline)

*Moon of the Crusted Snow* (novel by Anishinaabe writer Waubgeshig Rice)

*The Sasquatch at Home* (narrative essays by Haisla and Heiltsuk writer Eden Robinson)

*You are Enough: Love Poems for the End of the World* (poems by Ktunaxa writer Smokii Sumac)

*Learn, Teach, Challenge: Approaching Indigenous Literatures* (an anthology edited by Deanna Reder and Linda Morra)

\* Some of these texts may be assigned in excerpted form. Course readings will also include articles, talks, videos, images, podcasts, and other texts made accessible on Canvas.