

**GERALDTON COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL**

**2008 – 2009**

**English: Contemporary Aboriginal Voices, Grade 11, Workplace (NBE 3E)  
COURSE OUTLINE**

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**Teacher:** Mr. S. Wilson

**Sept 2008 – Feb 2009**

**Curriculum Policy:** The Ontario Curriculum: English, 2000

**Prerequisite:** English, Grade 10 (Academic or Applied)    **Credit Value:** 1.0

**Text:** Moses, D. *An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English*. Oxford, 2005.  
Highway, T. *The Rez Sisters*. Fifth House, 1992  
Highway, T. *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*. Fifth House, 1999.

Additional resources and materials will be used throughout the course from a variety of sources including print, video and the Internet

**Rationale:**

This course emphasizes the development of literacy, critical thinking, and communication skills through the study of works in English by Aboriginal writers. Students will study the content, form, and style of informational texts and literary and media works, and will develop an appreciation of the wealth and complexity of Aboriginal writing. Students will also write explanations, letters, and reports, and will investigate the connections between media forms and audiences. An important focus will be on using language clearly, accurately, and effectively in a variety of contexts.

**EVALUATION:**

Type of Assessment	Category	Details	Weighting (%)
Formative (70%)	Knowledge/Understanding	Tests/Quizzes, In-class assignments	20
	Thinking/Inquiry	Tests/Quizzes, Essays, Creative Writing, In-class assignments	15
	Application	Tests/Quizzes, Major assignments and unit culminating tasks, In-class assignments	20
	Communication	Tests/Quizzes, In-class assignments; oral presentations	15
Summative (30%)	Final Assessment	Final Exam	15
		Final Writing Project	15
<b>Total (%)</b>			<b>100</b>

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In addition, students will be assessed and evaluated through journal and notebook checks, self and peer evaluation, rubrics, presentations and classroom observation.

**LEARNING SKILLS:**

Students will also be evaluated with respect to the following learning skills:

- Works Independently
- Teamwork
- Organization
- Work Habits
- Initiative

This evaluation will be in the form of a letter designation as follows:

**E=Excellent G=Good S=Satisfactory N=Needs Improvement**

**UNITS:**

<b>Unit Number</b>	<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>Unit Length (Approx.)</b>
<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Identity</b>	<b>4 weeks (30 hours)</b>
<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Relationships</b>	<b>4 weeks (30 hours)</b>
<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Sovereignty</b>	<b>4 weeks (30 hours)</b>
<b>Unit 4</b>	<b>Challenges</b>	<b>4 weeks (30 hours)</b>
<b>Unit 5</b>	<b>Grammar and Writing Development</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>Unit 6</b>	<b>Reading and Communication Development</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS:**

- Students are expected to maintain a binder and notes organized according to their teacher's instructions. Students are also expected to be on time for class with all required books and materials, ready for the day's work. Students arriving late, (more than 20 minutes), are expected to get a late slip from the office. Students may be responsible for making up time lost due to lateness in the form of detentions. Students who are habitually late will be subject to the school's late policy.
- A student returning to class after any absence is expected to have an admit slip issued by the attendance office prior to the start of class. Exceptions are given due to school-related events, no buses due to weather or absences authorized by an outslip.

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- **Students who miss class are expected to get that day's assignment from another student or the teacher on their own.** If you know that you are going to be absent, let the teacher know in advance to try and avoid problems.

**LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

Students are given a fair and reasonable amount of time to complete assignments. Major assignments will be assigned a due date and a closure date, which will be three days after the due date. This will be the final date that the assignment may be submitted for evaluation. I am available in my room to provide extra assistance as required during the lunchtime Activity Period, (12:05 – 12:30).

**PLAGIARISM POLICY:**

Be familiar with the school's Plagiarism Policy. Any students caught plagiarizing an assignment, (passing off someone else's work as your own) – even if it is just a few sentences – may automatically receive a mark of zero and may jeopardize their credit in the course.

**SILENT READING:**

As literacy is a major focus within the school, it is important for students to read on a regular basis. As such, students are required to bring in a novel for the in-class silent reading component of the course. This novel, (which is the student's choice but must be approved by the teacher), should be brought to class every day. Students have the opportunity to borrow books from either the school or community library if none are available at home.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

I look forward to a productive and successful term. If you have any questions at all during the semester regarding the course or progress, please feel free to contact me through the school at 854-0130. If e-mail is more convenient, I can be reached via my work address: [swilson@sgdsb.on.ca](mailto:swilson@sgdsb.on.ca)

Once again, I appreciate your taking the time to read through this Course Outline.

Sincerely,

Mr. S. Wilson