



University
of Victoria

POLI 263 Indigenous Politics

Instructor Fall 2021: Dr. Kelly Aguirre

Course delivery: In the Fall 2021 term, this course will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

Course description:

In this introductory course to the subfield of Indigenous Politics, we will survey the politics of Indigenous peoples living within the territories presently claimed by Canada - while remaining fully cognizant that the constructed nature of this scope doesn't actually reflect the web of Indigenous relationships that supersede state borders. Key insights will be drawn from an historically-informed approach to contemporary Indigenous politics; noting that Canadian colonialism is reproduced through co-constitutive regimes of racialization, sexism and heterosexism, capitalism, ableism, etc. We will pay attention to the ways in which both the enduring reality of Indigenous peoples' political authority and the colonial project are experienced and undertaken at different times and in different places.

Course outcomes/objectives:

- Place contemporary Indigenous politics within a broad historical context, so that the continuities and breakages of colonization will become more readily apparent;
- Develop critical reflections on how colonialism, anti-colonialism, and the endurance of Indigenous peoples' political authorities is always already differentially distributed along various intersections of race, gender, class, sexuality, disability, etc.;
- Link theories and practices on settler-Indigenous relations in present-day Canada.

Topics may include:

Indigenous governance
Treaties
The Indian Act (1867 - present)
Resurgence
Residential schools

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.