

SOCI 103¹

Settler Colonialism and Canadian Society

Instructor: Ashley Berard, aberard@uvic.ca

Course Description:

In this course, we will explore the historical development of Canada as a settler colonial state and discuss how settler colonialism continues to structure Canada's political, economic, legal and social institutions. At the same time, we will emphasize the Indigenous values, practices, traditions, and modes of governance, kinship and nationhood that continue to exist in contention with settler Canada. Finally, we will ask what it would mean to decolonize. In other words, if the horizon of peaceful coexistence so often invoked through Indigenous treaties were to be materialized, what sorts of transformations might that demand of the country we know as Canada?

Meeting Times:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays, 1:30-2:20pm

Course Format:

Our class will meet in person, face to face, and students are expected to show up ready to listen, engage with the content, and be prepared from their course readings. Classes will not be recorded.

Content warning:

Settler colonialism is inherently violent. The topics being covered in this course will at times be heavy and challenging to work through. I will do my best to provide adequate content warnings on specific aspects, but please note that in taking this course, you will be exposed to content about the nature of tactics of colonialism and the vast impacts these tactics have on people, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. You are welcome to request time to talk to me about any concerns you have on the content being presented.

Course Pre-requisites:

There are no pre-requisites for the course.

Required Resources May Include:

Most course readings will be available on Brightspace under the corresponding week. There will be an additional resource list provided for you on Brightspace that is not required reading but may be of interest throughout, or after, the course. In the second half of the class, we will be reading the

¹ Please note that this online outline is only intended to give an overall and approximate sense of the course. A detailed course outline will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.

following book, which will be available to read for free via your UVic library account, or for physical copy purchase at the UVic Bookstore for \$20.95

Bussidor, Ila and Bilgen-Reinhart, Üstün. 2000. *Night Spirits: The Story of the Relocation of the Saysi Dene*. University of Manitoba Press.