

Richview Collegiate Institute
Expressing Aboriginal Cultures, Grade 9, Open
(NAC10)

Teachers: Ms Beaulieu, Mme Cardoni



COURSE
DESCRIPTION

This course examines Aboriginal cultures in Canada through an exploration of art forms –drawing, painting, sculpture, photography and storytelling – created by Aboriginal artists. Students will learn to identify Aboriginal art forms and describe relationships between the art forms and Aboriginal traditions, philosophy, and culture. Students will also create their own art forms to express their understanding of Aboriginal identity, relationships, and sovereignty.

OVERALL
EXPECTATIONS

IDENTITY

By the end of this course, students will:

- describe the elements of culture reflected in various art forms;
- demonstrate understanding of how Aboriginal art forms reflect cultural identity;
- produce Aboriginal art forms that portray Aboriginal culture;
- demonstrate understanding of traditional Aboriginal forms of expression and their influence on the portrayal of Aboriginal identity in contemporary art forms.

RELATIONSHIPS

By the end of this course, students will:

- demonstrate understanding of the relationships among Aboriginal peoples, their environments, and art forms;
- identify how specific Aboriginal art forms reflect aspects of the society that produced them;
- produce art forms that demonstrate Aboriginal relationships.

SOVEREIGNTY

By the end of this course, students will:

- explain how art forms can be an expression of sovereignty;
- identify different interpretations of sovereignty exemplified in various art forms;
- demonstrate how Aboriginal art affirms Aboriginal cultures.

CHALLENGES

By the end of this course, students will:

- demonstrate understanding of the impact of Aboriginal art forms on society;
- explain how art forms are a means for promoting dialogue and healing in Aboriginal communities;
- demonstrate understanding of issues related to the production of Aboriginal art forms;
- identify how new and evolving art forms reclaim, revive, and sustain Aboriginal cultures.

COURSE EVALUATION

TERM WORK	70%	
Knowledge and Understanding	30%	Studio Projects / Written Assignments
Thinking/Inquiry	20%	Sketchbook / Lessons
Communication	20%	Participation / Group Work / Critique
Application	30%	Practice Assignments / Work Habits
FINAL EVALUATION	30%	
Exam / Research Project	10%	
Culminating Activity	20%	

Course Work

Ongoing assessment will occur to allow students the opportunity to determine how well they are progressing towards achieving the expectations. Feedback will enable students to improve; therefore students must do all of these formative assessments. In **the Native Studies arts course**, a variety of teaching strategies are used to enhance student learning. These include (but are not limited to): note-taking, labs, experiments, cooperative work, research projects, role playing, journal writing, sketchbook studies, studio work, critiques, independent learning and study notes.

Culminating Activity

Students are expected to take part in the culminating activity which will give them the opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the course expectations. This culminating activity will consist of an exam or a written assignment and a studio assignment comprising 30% of the overall grade.

Evaluation Plan

Expressing Aboriginal Cultures, 9, Open (NAC1O)

Unit Titles: Exploring Identity, Relationships, Sovereignty, Challenges
Studio projects, written work, group activities, tests = 70%

1 Exploring Identity:

Elements and Principles of Design - Learning the Language of Visual Arts through personal stories and art - students will learn about Aboriginal Culture. Students will have the opportunity to explore the Art Gallery of Ontario to learn about First Nations, Inuit and Métis art and artists. We also will work with Aboriginal storytellers/speakers to help pass on stories relating to personal and tribal identity.

- Musical line drawing -Line
- Contour Drawing- Line and Value
- Personal Portrait – Identity Study – painting and found materials
- Family Tree Sculpture

2 Relationships:

Traditional Aboriginal Art Forms – exploring personal and tribal connections that Aboriginal peoples have made spiritually and culturally with their world. Students will examine the relationship between Aboriginal tribes and land; then make connections with their own relationship to land. Working with an Aboriginal artist, students will use new or familiar materials to create an artwork that connects to these themes and those of the grandfather teachings.

- Cartoon Character – pencil crayon
- Spirits - Clay sculpture
- Grandfather Teachings - Photography

3 Sovereignty:

Exploring current discussions about sovereignty through Printmaking. Students will explore aboriginal people's responsibility for governing themselves. Examining the meaning and the message / truth and fiction / reality and media.

- Opposites Attract – Printmaking

4 Challenges:

Students will examine the challenges Aboriginal people face today as reflected in the aftermath of colonization and residential schools. They will aim to visually capture key ideas in a personal artwork.

- Producing Contemporary Artwork with a message.

Final Evaluation - multi-faceted project weaving together a studio project with research or an in class exam - worth **30% of final mark**