

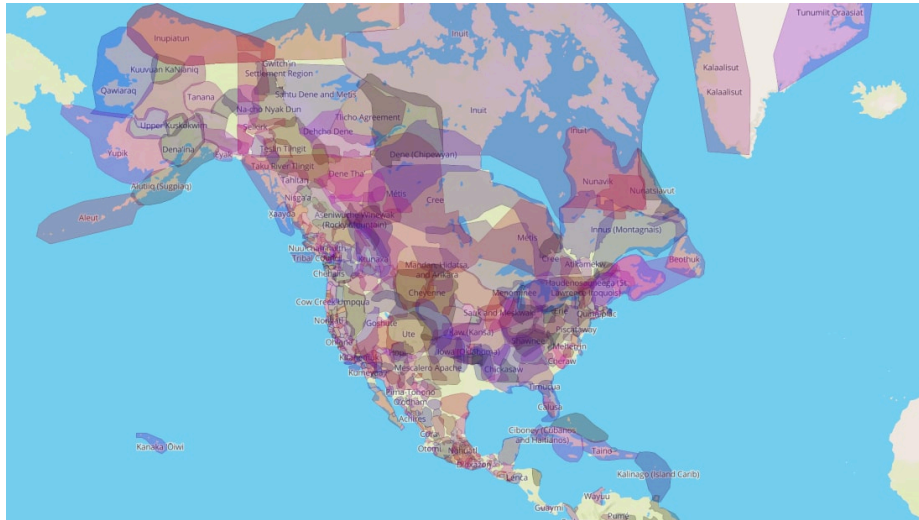
FNST 101: INTRODUCTION TO FIRST NATIONS STUDIES (3)

Dr. Maddie Knickerbocker

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Class: Tues, 5:30 PM – 8:20 PM, HCC 2270

Office hours: Tues, 3:30 – 4:30 PM, HC 2146



This course provides students with: an introduction to Indigenous issues in what is currently called Canada; a foundation for further work in First Nations Studies; and an overview of key ideas in a thematic survey of the field. After some introductory “first notions,” the first half of the class focuses on Indigenous peoples and cultures with an emphasis on the pre-colonial period; the second half of the course offers a historically-minded outlook on Indigenous peoples’ lives and agency since colonization.

Unlike your other courses at SFU, this class centers Indigenous perspectives as much as possible. This is your opportunity to learn about various Indigenous outlooks on the issues our course covers, and to make a practice of taking Indigenous ideas and intellectual work seriously, even (especially) if they challenge your views or conventional social mores. This can be epistemologically and emotionally difficult, but it is an important part of the work for this class.

Grade breakdown:

Mythbusting paper: 20%

Midterm: 20%

Indigenous Territory Paper: 30%

Final: 30%

Course texts:

- Required: Chelsea Vowell, *Indigenous Writes: A Guide to First Nations, Métis & Inuit Issues in Canada* (Winnipeg, MB: Highwater Press, 2016).
- Other readings available on Canvas in the Files section
- Recommended: Gregory Younging, *Elements of Indigenous Style: A Guide for Writing By and About Indigenous Peoples* (Edmonton, AB: Brush Education, 2018).