KNW 2199: Ways of Knowing, Taos Experience, August 2018

Faculty Facilitator: Laura Robinson-Doyle  
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Course Materials: You must bring a small notebook or journal that you can write in during activities. You will turn these in at the end of the course. All other materials, such as readings, videos, etc., will be posted to Canvas.

Course Description: This one credit course is designed to enhance the academic experience of enrolling in courses on the SMU-in-Taos campus through exploration of the “Everyday Life” in and around Taos. What is like to live and work in the Taos community? What are some major issues and problems faced by Taosenos in their everyday lives? In this course students will have an opportunity to learn more about the rich history of the three cultures—Tiwa, Spanish, and Anglo—that have collectively shaped the Taos community. Students will learn about and then explore ways of living in the Taos area through 1) planned excursions around Taos, 2) guest speakers, and 3) documentaries. The planned activities will be led by two or more scholars from different disciplines who will guide discussions before, during, and after excursions.

University Curriculum Learning Outcomes: Ways of Knowing

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a knowledge of more than one disciplinary practice.
2. Students will be able to explain how bringing more than one practice to an examination of the course topic contributes to knowing about that topic

Course Requirements and Policies

Preparedness Quizzes (combined for 30% of course grade): Students will complete a short online quiz prior to excursion/guest speaker over the assigned materials. There will be three. You may use your primary materials while taking the quiz. See the release and due dates on Canvas.

Reflection Essays (combined for 60% of course grade): After each day’s “experience” (e.g., excursion, guest speaker, documentary, etc.), you will complete a two page (11pt font, double spaced) reflection where you actively explain how combining the perspective from at least two disciplines increased your appreciation and understanding of each activity. You may also write about how the “experience” might relate to the other class you are taking in Taos. Students must incorporate course readings into reflection essays. Students will also be required to incorporate 2 reliable news sources that discuss the continued relevance of the experience to the Taos community. Each reflection will have a specific set of questions/prompts.

Attendance Policy: Attendance for ALL activities is Mandatory. The course expectation is that students will complete all the assigned readings, discussions, and activities. In the event that a student has to miss an activity, a research paper will be assigned.
Working with Canvas

All work will be submitted through Canvas.

1. Our course and all due times are on New Mexico time (mountain standard time). This is 1 hour earlier than Texas time.

2. Quizzes
   - You have 20 minutes to complete 10 questions. Questions may be multiple choice, true/false, or short answer.
   - Once you answer, you may not go back within the same quiz and change an answer.
   - These are closed note/book quizzes. However, you may take the quiz up to 2 times to improve your grade. I will accept the highest score.
   - You must work by yourself. Do NOT collaborate with classmates.

3. Reflection essays
   - Be sure to pay attention to each essay’s prompts and rubrics. Some prompts may be more general and used across the 3 essays, but some prompts may be specific to that particular essay.

Schedule (Tentative)

This course will involve 1 full day (Tuesday 8/7) of activities and 2 half days (Friday 8/10 and Thurs 8/16).

Tuesday, August 7th (Full Day)
Uniting Taos through service
   • Before 8:30am: Quiz 1 Due
   • 8:45am: Not Forgotten Outreach
   • 4:00pm: Wrap-up discussion
   • Reflection essay 1 due (8/9) by 11:59pm

Friday, August 10th (Half-day)
Living on the land, a view of agriculture and sustainability in Taos:
   • Before 8:30am: Quiz 2 Due
   • 12:15pm: Leave for Taos Pueblo
   • 1:45pm: Earthships
   • 3:45pm: Wrap-up discussion
   • Reflection 2 Essay Due (8/12) by 11:59pm

Thursday, August 16th (Half-day)
Understanding hunger and food status in Taos
   • Before 8:30am: Quiz 1 Due
   • 12:15pm: Guest Speaker (Taos Nutrition Director)
   • 1:45pm Leave for Taos Mountain Energy Bars
   • 3:45 pm: Wrap-up discussion
   • Reflection Essay 3 Due (8/19) by 11:59pm