



CENTER FOR CROSS-CULTURAL STUDIES
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<http://www.uaf.edu/cxcs>
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CCS F602
Cultural and Intellectual Property Rights
3 credits
Spring 2011 Course Syllabus

Meeting Times and Location:

January 20 – May 4, 2011
Thursdays 5:15 – 8:15 PM
124 Bunnell Building

Audio Conference #: 1-800-570-3591
Student PIN: 4307972

Online Forum: <http://ankn.uaf.edu/CXCS> (Moodle)

Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of instructor

Instructor: Steven R. Becker, CEP
Assistant Professor of Tribal Management
Dept. of Indigenous, Community & Tribal Programs
College of Rural & Community Development, Interior-Aleutians Campus
122 Harper Building, P.O. Box 756720, Fairbanks, AK 99775-6720
907.474.5096 (office) * 888.846.2422 (toll free) * 907.687.6809 (cell)
907.474.5208 (fax) * steve.becker@alaska.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 A.M. – Noon

Required Text: Readings provided by instructor.

Course Description: This course will provide students with an opportunity to learn about the cultural and intellectual property rights issues and concerns of Indigenous peoples, internationally and statewide. It will be an introduction into a very complex arena of cultural, political and legal issues, and who the Indigenous groups are, their differences and commonalities. This course is an opportunity to become aware, to educate each other and to guide each other on these complex issues. Included will be opportunities to hear from Indigenous peoples involved in the complexity of defining cultural and intellectual property rights, discussion and examination of various strategies that have been developed

internationally to protect Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights, their advantaged and disadvantages.

Course Goals: Students will develop an understanding of the cultural and intellectual property rights of Indigenous peoples, recognize the current issues regarding the recognition of these rights, and gain an understanding of the strategies currently used to protect the cultural and intellectual property rights of Indigenous peoples on a local, statewide, national, and international level.

Student Learning Outcomes: On completion of the course the student should be able to:

1. Define the concept of cultural and intellectual property rights.
2. Compare and contrast the concept of knowledge ownership from an Indigenous cultural perspective with the Western concept of ownership.
3. Discuss the cultural and intellectual property rights issues faced by Indigenous peoples
 - a. Regionally
 - b. In Alaska
 - c. Nationally, and
 - d. Internationally
4. Identify strategies and protective mechanisms that have been developed to enhance the protection of Indigenous peoples' cultural and intellectual property rights.
5. Prepare a position paper on cultural and intellectual property rights specific to the student's cultural upbringing, employment, community, or heritage.

Instructional Methods: Instructional methods will include a combination of lecture, individual and small group discussion in a blended classroom and audio-conference format.

Course Policies: This course will utilize an audio-conference/seminar format and will rely primarily on readings, practical experiences, written assignments, internet explorations of related websites, and group discussions led by instructor, students and occasional guest speakers. Students are expected to sign in early so that sessions may begin promptly. Students are expected to read the assigned materials before each audio-conference/seminar and to participate in subsequent discussions. Since this course deals with complex and sensitive issues, everyone is asked to show respect for each other.

Evaluation and Grading: This is a letter grade course. Grades will be assigned based on the percentage of the total points possible that a student earned for the course in accordance with the following:

% of Total	Grade
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
<60	F

Total points possible for the course will be assigned and weighted based on the following:

Attendance and Participation (10%): Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class session, and students are expected to actively participate in group discussions. Students contacting the instructor (via phone or email) with a legitimate excused absence *prior* to the start of class will receive attendance points for that session, however participation points cannot be made up.

Reading Summaries (10%): Students will summarize and lead in-class discussions on assigned readings. Assignments will generally be made a week or two prior to the class in which the student will present.

Issue Papers (40%): Students will prepare four (4) papers exploring a CIPR issue related to the topics being discussed and within their area of interest. Each issue paper should include an overview of the specific cultural and intellectual property rights issue, a description of the situation, and the solution reached to resolve the problem(s). Each paper will be 3-5 pages (double spaced, size 12 font, 1" margins) in length. Papers shall be in the MLA style unless a different manual of style is approved by the instructor.

Position Paper (20%): Using the readings, web-sites, journal entries, interviews, and/or personal research and experiences, students will draft an 8-10 page position paper (double spaced, size 12 font, 1" margins, MLA or other pre-approved style) in which you focus on a particular cultural and intellectual property rights issue and present the implications for Alaska's Indigenous peoples. Please discuss your ideas with me before beginning your final paper.

Group Project - Virtual CIPR Conference (20%): The class will organize a virtual conference utilizing the ANKN Moodle. Active participation in the conference is required. This will be a group project. Overall points will be awarded based on the quality of the virtual CIPR conference as determined by the instructor and invited guests, however the instructor reserves the right to adjust individual scores either upward or downward based on the individual's level of participation and contribution toward the conference.

Optional assignment for bonus points: Please write a one-page critique of this course, including critical comments on both the format and the content, as well as your assessments of the readings. This assignment is worth ten (10) bonus points. Remember these comments will be helpful in improving and strengthening the course.

Support Services: The University has many student support programs. If you need assistance please contact any of the following service programs or departments.

Instructor: The instructor is available upon appointment for additional assistance outside session hours.

Moodle: For issues with the ANKN Moodle, please contact Sean Topkok at 907-474-5897 or by email at sean@ankn.uaf.edu.

UAOnline: (<http://uaonline.alaska.edu/>) Your resource for transcripts, accounts, and other personal information.

Writing Center: (<http://www.alaska.edu/english/studentresources/writing/>) The Writing Center is a student-staffed, student-oriented service of the English Department. The UAF Writing Center and Computer Lab offers free writing tutoring to any student in any subject via telephone and fax or over the Internet. Students can call 907-474-5314 for information on how to fax a paper and have it tutored over the telephone, or engage in an interactive Internet session. Both services are free.

Library Services for off campus students: (<http://library.uaf.edu/offcampus>) Off-Campus Library Services is a unit set up to serve rural UAF students and faculty who do not have access to appropriate information resources in their town or village.

Disability Services: (<http://www.uaf.edu/disability/>) The UAF Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. Disability Services provide a variety of services to assure equal access for all students. Interpreting services, educational assistants, note taking, and exam accommodations for students are the most frequently provided accommodations. Your instructor will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

UAF Disability Services for Distance Students

- a) UAF has a Disability Services office that operates in conjunction with the College of Rural & Community Development (CRCDC) campuses and the UAF Center for Distance Education (CDE). Disability Services, a part of UAF Center for Health and Counseling, provides academic accommodations to enrolled students who are identified as being eligible for these services.
- b) If you believe you are eligible, please visit Disability Services the web or contact a student affairs staff person at your nearest local campus. You can also contact Disability Services on the Fairbanks Campus at:

Phone:	907.474.5655
TTY:	907.474.1827
Fax:	907.474.5688
Email:	fydso@uaf.edu