



# Syllabus: TOS 115 - Fundamentals of O'odham Philosophy and Culture

<b>Course Information</b>	
Course Prefix/Number: TOS 115 Semester: Fall 2019 Class Days/Times: M W 1:00 - 2:15	Credit Hours: 3 Course Title: Foundations of O'odham Philosophy Room: GSK 2

<b>Instructor Information:</b> Name: Camillus Lopez Office located in GSK Office hours 9:00 - 5:00 (20 hours per week sporadic)	Phone/Voice Mail: 520-993-9691 E-mail: calopez@tocc.edu
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**Course Description:**

*"We will plant our crop and pray for rain. If the rain comes, we will eat for another year. If the rain does not come, we will take whatever is out there and make a life out of it".*

Using the Man in Maze/I'toi Ki symbol, Students will explore O'odham culture and through the exploration, identify the O'odham Philosophy while recognizing their own personal philosophy.

**Course Objectives:**

During this course students will .....

Using the Man in the Maze/I'toi Ki in its many forms, Students will discover their own personal philosophy based on O'odham experience of survival through the centuries of ever evolving changes in the environment.

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):**

After completion of the course students will be able to....

- **Assess their personal understanding of the Meaning of Life through a "The Gospel According to Me" exercise at the beginning of the semester, to measure their progress at the end of the semester.**
- **Through discussions, presentations, assignments and personal reflection, students will define O'odham culture of the present and some of the major influences that cause changes to the O'odham lifestyle**
- **At the end of the semester, students will measure their progress to identify a personal philosophy.**
- **Students will have acquired a deeper understanding of O'odham culture so as to have knowledge, while working with O'odham individuals and groups**

#### **Course Structure:**

- **Presentations, Lectures and StoryTelling will be given. Group discussion will follow.**
- **Students will learn to draw the Man in the Maze/l'ittoi Ki symbol in its various forms. They will create a piece of artwork with the man in the maze symbol represented on it as a personal reminder of their philosophy**
- **Students will study O'odham ceremonies and written texts and decipher its intent.**
- **Students will compare philosophies from other cultures of the world to make comparisons to O'odham himdag.**

#### **Texts and Materials:**

- **O'ODHAM CREATION & RELATED EVENTS by Ruth Benedict (Underhill)**
- **Other related handouts and media material.**
- **Note taking instrument, i.e. writing tablet, laptop, ipad, etc...**

#### **Evaluation and Grading & Assignments**

##### **Grading will be calculated by:**

- **Class and homework assignments turned in. (20% of Final grade)**
  - **Half of the assignment's points will be deducted on scores of any assignments turned in late.**
- **Class participation and discussion. (20% of Final grade)**
- **Non-Attendance will result in points deducted from final scores. (20% of Final grade)**
  - **Unexcused Absence**
  - **Tardy for class for unjust cause**
  - **Leaving early for unjust cause**
  - **Not being attentive, sleeping or being dis-engaged.**
- **Mid-Term test score. October 2, 2019 (20% of Final grade)**
- **End of Term test score. December 11, 2019. (20% of Final grade)**

- **Extra Credit Projects will be assigned by the Instructor. (And, is not available after November 27 and for failing students)**

**Himdag Cultural Component:**

- **Respect for individual person's points of view.**
- **Respect for the class a community of fellow learners.**
- **When a person speaks, everyone listens, unless the discussion strays away from the subject of discussion.**

**Policies and expectations- minimally**

- **Extra Credit will be discussed and agreed between instructor and student.**
- **Absences will be excused for just cause determined by the instructor.**
- **All mobile communicating devices must be silenced and their use is not allowed during class time, Unless the student is taking notes, searching for information or organizing notes.**
- **Class presentations will not be repeated.**

**Course Outline:**

**Students will listen to lectures and O'odham storytelling to understand how to recognize differences between O'odham culture and influences from other cultures. Text books will be introduced to attempt to help students understand the 'old' O'odham philosophy in oratory forms.**

**Class discussions will be used to ask for clarification, voice opinions on various topics and to assist other participants gain a better understanding of topics.**

**Periodically, reports will be assigned on reflections and opinions of class topics and assignments.**

**Students will create a piece of artwork using the l'itoy Ki to symbolize a "personal philosophy" and write a report to be presented during the final weeks of the class.**

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.

