**Spring Semester**

**2017**

**Location**

**W 565**

**9:25 – 10:40 PM**

**Instructor Linda Many Guns, Assistant Professor**

 **Native American Studies Dept.**

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**Office hours Wednesday 2:00 – 4:00**

**NAS 3850**

**Indigenous Art Based Inquiry**

 **Spring 2017 Semester**

**Description**

This course teaches how to use Indigenous symbolism as performative research process in narrative, poems, art, symbols and song. The defining characteristics that distinguish an Indigenous community also form the illustrative frameworks that construct Aboriginal culture and reinforces identity. The vessels of Indigenous knowledge are song, visual contexts and in story as cultural knowledge pools of knowledge. The application of symbol deepens, in a visual performative way, the intellectual capacity of culturally appropriate indigenous research understanding. Their use is also intertwined and closely tied to cultural continuity and the expansion of inter and intra cultural understandings. In this course students will create Art Based Inquiry projects. Symbols hold a relationship with the environment and are embedded in cultures in ways to distinguish cultures. In this course we will focus on the way in which symbols act to communication and capture knowledge. This course explores many forms of Arts Based Inquiry (hereinafter ABR) although given the short time frame of this course we can only explore some of the available contexts. This is a new and emerging research methodology that will continue to morph into many interactive and genuine forms for capturing and understanding human knowledge to generate a better more concise understanding.

Respectfully Yours

Dr. ManyGuns