

# WKEXP 900 WORK TERM ASSIGNMENT

## Indigenous Canada Course and Reflection

Effective August 2025, the Indigenous Canada MOOC is no longer free to audit on Coursera. If you choose to complete WKEXP 900 instead of the regular work term assignment, you'll need to pay the \$67 fee to access the course materials.

**This course and reflection may be completed as your 901, 902, 903, 904, or 905 assignment. You may only complete it once during your co-op degree. If you previously completed the course and can provide proof of completion dated January 2025 or later, it will be accepted as valid for this work term assignment.**

### PURPOSE

“We have described for you a mountain. We have shown you the path to the top. We call upon you to do the climbing.” - the late Honourable Murray Sinclair, Ojibway Elder, Lawyer, Judge, Former Senator, and Chair of the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission

This assignment serves in part to answer Sinclair’s call to “do the climbing” of listening, of learning, and of taking action. It does so by integrating the knowledge gained from completing the Coursera course *Indigenous Canada* into engineering career perspectives. By engaging with the course content, students will develop a deeper understanding of Indigenous histories, perspectives, and issues in Canada. This aligns with the University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan, particularly its commitment to fostering respectful relationships, engaging with Indigenous knowledge, and advancing reconciliation through education.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completing this assignment, students will:

- Develop an understanding of Indigenous histories, cultures, and contemporary issues.
- Recognize the importance of Indigenous perspectives in engineering and professional practices.
- Reflect on ways to integrate Indigenous knowledge into ethical and sustainable engineering solutions.

By completing this assignment, students will contribute to reconciliation efforts and responsible engineering practices that respect Indigenous rights and worldviews.

### ASSIGNMENT

#### 1. Course Completion

- Complete this [form](#) no later than 31 January at 11:59pm to express interest in completing this assignment. Sign ups will be capped at 24 to ensure meaningful students experiences during the “Communities of Conversation.” Registration is managed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Enroll in and complete the *Indigenous Canada* course on Coursera ([link](#)). Keep in mind the time commitment required is about 20 hours, it is online and at your own pace. Internet access is required.
- Provide the certificate as proof of completion.

## 2. Attend a “Community of Conversation” with Co-op Staff and fellow Students

Your co-op office will be hosting three virtual “Communities of Conversation” in February and March 2026. In order to pass this assignment and receive credit for the work term, students need to attend at least one “Community of Conversation.” Dates and times forthcoming in early-February.

The “Conversations” serve a dual purpose:

- i) to keep us on track
- ii) to allow us to (un)learn from and listen to each other as we engage with the course material

## 3. Reflection and Alignment with the Indigenous Strategic Plan

- Review [\*\*Braiding Past, Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan\*\*](#)
- Write a brief **reflection** incorporating one or more of the possible topics below
- Possible reflection topics might include on
  - how the course aligns with at least two key principles of the Indigenous Strategic Plan, such as Respectful Relationships, Teaching and Learning, or Research and Innovation.
  - how the knowledge gained from the course will benefit you in your future engineering career.
  - how understanding Indigenous perspectives can influence engineering practices, such as ethical decision-making, community engagement, and sustainable development.
  - how you can specifically apply Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in engineering projects, particularly when engaging with Indigenous communities.

Combine your cover page, reflection, and course completion verification in one document.

**Reflection Length:** ~500 typed and double-spaced words exclusive of the cover page and course completion verification

**Font:** 12pt; Calibri, Arial or Times New Roman

**Margins:** 1”

### **Cover Page**

- Student name
- ID number
- Work term
- Discipline
- The name of the Employer Relationship Manager/Program Advisor who conducted your most recent onsite evaluation.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- **Course Completion Proof** – Evidence of course completion.
- **Community of Conversation** – Attendance will be taken at the end of each conversation
- **Reflection** – Depth of insight, clarity of ideas, and relevance to an engineering career.
  - This is a Pass / Fail assignment that will be evaluated as either “Excellent” or “Unsatisfactory”.

Depending on your social position and lived experiences, engaging with the Indigenous Canada course may bring up strong emotions or challenging reflections—be sure to prioritize your well-being and seek support if needed.

## RESOURCES

[Braiding Past, Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) - read this plan

[Indigenous Canada | Coursera](#) - complete this course

Optional - [Weekends at Levy's - Indigenous Canada with Tracy, Paul and Dan - YouTube](#)

## To submit proof of course completion

- 1) Download the certificate, merge it with the reflection, and upload both to Canvas by the due date.

## DEADLINES

Your assignment is due one month prior to the end of the work term. Please name your completed work term report as follows: ID#\_900\_Surname\_Initial of First Name (example: 1234567\_900\_Mills\_F).

**The Canvas submission portal closes at 11:59pm on the dates noted below.** Failure to complete the report may result in a grade of “NC” - no credit - for your WKEXP 904 course.

<u>Work Term</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Winter	31 March
Summer	31 July
Fall	30 November

## PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

The End of Term Evaluation must be completed by both you and your supervisor before the end of each four-month work term. Toward the end of the term, a link to the evaluation will be sent directly to your supervisor's email address. To ensure they receive it, please make sure their correct email is entered in your work term record in campusBRIDGE. If you will be leaving your position more than two weeks before the end of the work term, notify your co-op onsite contact so the evaluation link can be sent earlier.