

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
London Canada  
Department of English

**Human Rights and Indigenous Creative Practices**

ENG 9138A

Wednesday 9:30-12:30 (Fall 2017)

ROOM NO. LWH 2205

**Fall 2017**

Professor Julia Emberley PhD FRSC  
Department of English and Writing Studies

Office Hours: Wednesday 1-2  
or by appointment

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**Description:**

This course brings together human rights' discourses and Indigenous creative cultural practices through a selection of textual and visual materials in national as well as international contexts such as those of Canada, Australia, the US, and Aotearoa (New Zealand). Students will discuss how these materials re-imagine and transform the precarious effects of settler colonization on human rights, including but not limited to land and ecological issues, the structure of family and kinship, sexual freedoms, and cultural knowledge and storytelling.

**Required Readings:**

Eden Robinson, *The Son of a Trickster*  
Lee Maracle, *Celia's Song*  
Sheila Watt-Cloutier, *The Right to be Cold*  
Leanne Simpson, *Islands of Decolonial Love*  
Thomas King, *The Back of the Turtle*  
Katherena Vermette, *The Break*  
Basil Johnston, *Indian School Days*  
Additional readings available on OWL

**Evaluation:**

Seminar response papers	20%
Class Participation	10%
Seminar Presentation/Written summary	25%
Research Paper (Due Dec. 9)	45%

**Statement on Academic Offences:**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)