Course Description:
“Within Indigenous communities, oral and written traditions—as literacies—are expressed in a wide range of forms. Decolonizing the definition and ideas of what is literacy and literature provides a timely, appropriate, and broader space for understanding and appreciating the contributions of Indigenous knowledge keepers, storytellers, writers, and scholars. The various forms provide means for sharing of cultural lifeways. They reveal understandings of our and others’ worlds and perspectives, and the experiences and relationships we had and have with them. Persistence of these traditions are expressed as an Indigenous Time-Space Continuum. This is a dynamic process that draws attention to context (the space and place), the form (the telling), how it shapes content (the materials), and affirms a seamless past, present, and future presence of Indigenous peoples within ever-changing and altered realities. Within this course we will survey many different genres from numerous and diverse cultures. This will broaden our study in ways that also consider how particular influences and impacts are represented within these literatures, and are “markers” of various shifts, and reveal oral and written traditions of Indigenous Peoples’ as responsive and transformative. This course is presented in three distinct parts, yet each is presented as a woven study of Indigenous oral, written, and futurism expressions. Students will have the opportunity to engage various forms of research and produce several types of writing, including reflection (what you feel you have learnt, reflexive (how this learning has broader implications), and synthetic essay forms, as well as rewriting exercises.”

Required Texts:

Syllabus:
Weekly assignments: Discussion post, Response to Discussion post, Essay.
Exercises include: Self as StoryTeller (Introduction); Relationality Writing; Group ZINE project.

Week 3: “Identity & Perspectives: Hybrid Voices and Multi-Vocal Perspectives”
Week 4: “Beginnings and Becomings: Self, Land, Origin Stories, Ritual and Ceremonies”
Week 5: “Songs and Drums: Call & Response and Code Switching and Talking:
Week 6: Mid-Term #1: Exam covers weeks 1-5, 5-page Essay and Rewrite.
Week 8: Non-Fiction: “Spirituality, Religion, Life as Ceremony.”
Week 11: Mid-Term #2: Exam covers weeks 7-10, 5-page Essay and Rewrite.
Week 13: (continue Indigenous Futurisms) “As We Have Always Done...Theater.”