

## ABST 100 Topic Essay DUE April 9<sup>th</sup>

### **READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY**

There are 10 topics scheduled for ABST 100 this semester. The course is divided into topics rather than weeks and you are expected to work through each topic lecture and provide a written response to the material covered. Of the ten topics, you will have to complete **8** essays throughout the semester. It is up to you which topics you choose but you have to have completed 8 by the end of the semester.

There are due dates for each topic so be aware and schedule time to do the assignment. It is your responsibility to complete the assignments on time. Late assignments will be accepted only in cases of family or medical emergencies and you must notify me within 24 hours of the due date.

You can expect to have the essays marked within a week after the due date. I teach other classes so do not expect an immediate turn-around. If you wish, you can email me your assignment before the due date so I can give you some feedback on its quality. Allow 3-4 days for a response to such requests (do not email me your essay the day before it's due and ask for feedback).

You will upload your essay in a word document to Moodle. Your word document must be named XXXXXX(student number)\_(underscore)EssayX(number of essay 1-8). For example: **123456\_essay4.doc** (this is the title of the 4<sup>th</sup> essay submitted by the student whose number is 123456)

Write a short essay on one of the topics below **using material provided on Moodle**. You can add supplementary material from publications but if you do, cite them and include a bibliography. DO NOT copy material from websites. Plagiarism is a serious offense so be aware of the policies; “not knowing” is not a legitimate excuse and papers with plagiarized text will receive a mark of zero. <https://cnc.bc.ca/services/library/tutorials-help/plagiarism>

Be sure you write as thoroughly as possible as the essay is worth 10 marks. Your essay must be 500 – 600 words. Do not simply summarize the class material. You are expected to provide your own thoughts on the topics and make your own connections. You are permitted to write in the first person if you wish to include personal anecdotes in your essay. You are not permitted to copy and paste text from the material or from websites; I expect you to write your essays using your own words.

If I encounter essays that are too similar to be coincidence, I will assume they are copied. If this happens, I will give the second paper I mark a zero, regardless of who copied off whom. This is to counter any cheating that may take place among students; again, it is important that

you write your own essay. If you are not a strong writer, get help from testing and tutoring, the library, etc.

Write on one (1) of the following topics and upload your essay where indicated on Moodle:

- List and discuss some of the stereotypes held by the participants in the program. Where do these stereotypes come from and why do you think they persist? List at least two.
- When the participants are in Alberta and receive a lesson on treaties, how did it make you feel about your own understanding of treaties? Do you think treaties have been a good arrangement between First Nations and the Canadian government?
- Compare the response of the participants to the story of residential schools and your own response to the film *We Were Children*. Were there parallels?
- After watching the films, discuss why it is important for Canadians to have a more complete understanding of First Nations /Canadian history. Do you think these lessons provided to the participants would help Canadians understand current issues facing Indigenous peoples?