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## Syllabus: *TOS 114 Wellness & Wellbeing: O'odham Dances, Songs, and Music*

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### Course Information

Course Prefix/Number: TOS 114

Semester: Fall 2016

Class Days/Times: Sat. 9:00am- 11:30am

Credit Hours: 3

Course Title: Wellness & Wellbeing: O'odham  
Dances, Songs, and Music.

Room: Central Campus, Room 502

### Instructor Information:

Name: Ronald Geronimo

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Office location: Main Campus

Office hours: As posted or by appointment

### Course Description:

TOS 114 Apedag, Wellness & Wellbeing: O'odham Dances Songs and Music

History and practice of Tohono O'odham cultural activities to promote the Wellness and Wellbeing of the O'odham and community.

TOS 114a. The history and use of traditional cultural dancing as well as contemporary Spanish/Mexican influenced dancing. (Waila, Pako'ola) Includes gender roles.

TOS 114b The history and use of traditional songs as well as contemporary music influenced by Spanish/Mexican music (Piast). Includes gender roles.

### Course Objectives:

#### During this course students will:

Research the historical development and cultural use of O'odham dances, songs, and music.

Observe different forms of O'odham dances, songs, and music.

Write reflections of personal growth, comprehension and experiences relating to O'odham Dances, Songs, and Music

Examine the connection of traditional activities to wellness and wellbeing.

Present on the benefits of knowing and practicing O'odham dances, songs, and music.

## Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

### After completion of the course students will be able to:

Describe the historical and cultural significance of O'odham dances, songs, and music.

Recognize and identify the different forms of O'odham dances, songs, and music.

Explain the significance of traditional activities to the promotion of wellness and wellbeing

### Course Structure:

The course will be taught using a participatory approach with some time spent in the classroom studying the history and cultural significance of O'odham dances, songs, and music. Students will observe and be encouraged to participate in community events where O'odham dances, songs, and music is presented. Students will document their personal reflections, experiences, and observations relating to O'odham dances, songs, and music and will research a ceremonies or activity to determine the importance of O'odham dances, songs, and music.

### Texts and Materials:

Journal Book

Handouts and other materials will be given out in class.

Assignments	Points Available	Points Earned
Research Paper	15 points	40 points
Journal	10 points	
Community Participation	15	
Attendance, Participation and discussions	15 points	30 points
Presentation	15 points	
Mid-term Exam	15 points	30 points
Final Exam	15 points	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>	<b>100 points</b>

Description of items to be evaluated:

### Research Paper:

Research a ceremony or activity where O'odham dances, songs, and music is used. What is the role of the ceremony or activity in O'odham society? Do you think this ceremony or activity will survive in the coming years? What can be done to ensure that this ceremony or activity will continue to be part of the O'odham culture? Does the ceremony or activity need O'odham dances, songs, and music?

### Class Presentation:

Students will present the information obtained from their research project. Presentations usually begin the last two weeks of class but can be done earlier if the student is ready to present.



**Journal:**

The journal will be used to write reflections on your progress and knowledge gained and can also be used to record any thoughts, feelings, concerns or questions you may have about the class. The journal should contain a minimum of 10 entries. .

**Attendance, Participation and Discussions:**

Students will be encouraged to attend all class sessions and to contribute to class discussions and exercises.

**Community Participation:**

Students will be required to participate in a community activity where O'odham dances, songs, and music is presented.

**Midterm Exam:**

Students will have a Midterm exam on the history and uses of traditional dances and songs which will be presented in the first 8 weeks.

**Final Exam:**

Students will have a final exam on the history and uses of contemporary dances and music which will be presented in the second 8 weeks.

**Himdag Cultural Component:**

Students will participate in the preservation of O'odham dances, songs, and music in the continuation of O'odham traditions and culture. The students will be able to associate the importance of these activities to the continuance of O'odham *himdag* and to the promotion of wellness and wellbeing.

**Course Outline:**

TOS 114a O'odham Dancing

- 1) Oral History, songs or stories; Origins
- 2) Function - historical & contemporary
- 3) Gender roles
- 4) Preparation and Technique

TOS 114b O'odham Songs and Music

- 1) Oral History, songs or stories; Origins
- 2) Function - historical & contemporary
- 3) Gender roles
- 4) Preparation and Technique

**Policies and expectations-**

**Course Policies Requirements:** (1) Attend class regularly (2) Complete in-class and out of class

assignments (3) Attend any planned field trips. (4) Take all exams (5) Complete all class projects and presentations.

**Attendance:** You are expected to arrive to class on time and actively participate each class period. Some class assignments begin at the start of class and may be missed if you do not arrive on time. If you miss all or a portion of the class, then you are solely responsible for obtaining missed class material. Complete attendance is mandatory during student presentations otherwise presentation points will be forfeited. Four consecutive absences may result in withdrawal from the class. You may ask to be excused from class for religious observation and practices, for illness, for travel or for personal or family emergency. If you will be absent, please notify the instructor before class time or as soon as possible if it is an emergency.

**Make up policy:** All assignments if not turned in on the due date can be submitted late within two days of the due date but will not receive the maximum points allowed. You will be allowed one extra credit assignment or activity.

**Academic Integrity:** Violations of scholastic ethics are considered serious offenses by Tohono O'odham Community College, the Student Services Department, and by your instructor. Students may consult the TOCC Student Handbook sections on student code of conduct, on scholastic ethics and on the grade appeal procedure. Copies are available at Tohono O'odham Community College. All work done for this class must be your own. While you may discuss assignments with other class members, the final written project must clearly be your own. You may use work from books and other materials if it is properly cited. Copying from a book without proper reference or from a person under any circumstances will result in an "F" for the assignment and at the instructor's discretion, possibly an "F" for the course.

**ADA Compliance:**

Tohono O'odham Community College strives to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a learning problem, physical disability, or medical illness that requires you to have any special arrangements, please inform your instructor at the beginning of the semester so your academic performance will not suffer because of the disability or handicap.

**Classroom Behavior:**

- Because of insurance limitations, non-registered visitors are not allowed at class sessions or on field trips.
- Possession of drugs, alcohol or firearms on college property is illegal
- Food and beverages are allowed in the classroom as long as you clean up
- Pets, cellphones and other electronic devices that distract students are not allowed
- Students creating disturbances that interfere with the conduct of the class and the learning environment will be asked to leave
- Students sleeping or wearing headphones in class will be marked absent

**Course Feedback:**

A student or the instructor may request a student conference at any time during the semester. A mid-semester grade report will be provided to each student

**Instructor Withdrawals:**

Students who have missed four consecutive classes, not submitted any assignments nor taken any



quizzes by the third week, are assumed NOT to be participating in the class and will be withdrawn. Students may withdraw from class at any time during the first 2/3 of the semester without instructor permission and without incurring any grade penalty. Please be sure to withdraw yourself if you do not expect to complete the class, otherwise you may receive an "F" grade.

**Incomplete (I) grade:**

"I" grades are not awarded automatically. The student must request an "I" from the instructor who will judge the student's ability to complete the course on his or her own. Generally the student must have completed over 80% of the course requirements with at least a "C" grade. An "I" requires a written contract between the student and the instructor listing work to be completed as well as how and when the work will be done. If the work is not completed within the contract period, the "I" grade automatically reverts to an "F." "I" grades will not be re-evaluated during the final two weeks of the semester when class activities are normally at their most intense.

**Special Withdrawal (Y) grade:**

The "Y" grade is an administrative withdrawal given at the instructor's option when no other grade is deemed appropriate. Your instructor must file a form stating the specific rationale for awarding this grade. "Y" grades are discouraged since they often affect students negatively. Your instructor will not award a "Y" grade without a strong reason.

**Final Grades:** Students will receive a grade transcript from the college mailed to the address given with registration materials at the end of the semester when all grades have been recorded.

**SPECIAL NOTE TO STUDENT:**

For privacy and security reasons, instructors are advised **NOT** to give grades over the telephone. Grades will only be emailed with written permission from the student.

Your instructor will make every attempt to follow the above procedures and schedules, but they may be changed in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Students submitting assignments through the mail or by email are advised to make copies for their own protection.

If you move during the semester, please file a change of address form with the Student Services Office, and inform your instructor.

**DISCLAIMER:** This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur.