TWO NEW ONLINE COURSES IN INDIGENOUS RESEARCH METHODS

Even though AIRA's certification program has been discontinued, Lori Lambert, AIRA's founder, is teaching two online courses this spring in Indigenous Research Methods and Methodologies for students who want to learn and apply these methods to their research. One is a graduate-level class at the University of Montana, and the other is an undergraduate class offered through Stone Child College. Both are online courses designed for researchers who wish to conduct research in Indigenous communities. Neither is guaranteed for transfer credit, so students who need transfer credit for their program of study or in order to apply financial aid to tuition should check with their advisors before registering.

The course at the University of Montana is for graduate credit and from the Department of Public Health. It is 3 credits and 15 weeks. Students should apply through the University of Montana graduate school. Contact Dr. Kari Harris, kari.harris@mso.umt.edu, for more information about course dates and tuition, and to get application materials.

The course at Stone Child is 3 credits and is also 15 weeks. It is for undergraduate credit. Students should apply for the class through Stone Child College. Contact Lavern Parker, lparker@stonechild.edu, for more information about course dates and tuition, and to get application materials.

Course description: The course focuses on the cultural aspect of Indigenous research methods as they relate to all sciences. Included are current theories of Indigenous research, explorations of the purpose of Indigenous research, both historical and contemporary; roles and responsibilities of an Indigenous researcher; how to gather data from oral and recorded traditions; and other important issues that face Indigenous researchers, both now and in the future. To this end, the following questions are emphasized: To whom does the research belong? Whose benefit and interests are at stake? Who is the researcher and what is their relationship to the research community? Who carries out the research? Who controls and disseminates the results? Students will write a research proposal in their discipline and from their own Indigenous paradigm.