

ISEM 101 - The Sacred Journey – Final Exam Take Home Reflective Essay

8th May 2014

To be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on the 13th of May, if not sooner, as a Word Document (.docx) or PDF (.pdf) file, to rfrey@uidaho.edu

Assume the role of an Indigenous elder, who has also earned graduate degree from the University of Idaho. You have been asked by the Secretary General of the United Nations to join a special committee and assist the UN in developing a white paper – “**A Declaration of Peace.**” Specifically, the UN wants your views on “how to address and solve the catastrophic consequences of continuing human tensions, hatreds and conflict between nations, ethnic and religious groups, and social classes, with implications for regional and global warfare.”

As an Indigenous elder, you are firmly grounded in the *mi'yep* of your community. And with an advanced college degree, you are also well versed in the intellectual power of the academic disciplines of the **humanities and social science**. In your contribution to “A Declaration of Peace,” integrate the key concepts and experiences from both your Indigenous and academic communities, referencing the *mi'yep* and “bones” brought forth from the First Peoples, and how those *mi'yep* and “bones” are to be used as you engage relationships with the Spirit, Animal/Plant, and Human Peoples (all 6 seminar topics; B.1-6.), as well as referencing and using the humanities and social sciences as tools for interpretation and understanding (“Eye Juggling” and the last 2 seminar topics; B.5. and B.6.).

Make your case as compelling as possible, utilizing any and all devices and techniques at your disposal, including references to textbook readings, PDF and HTML readings/materials, video viewings, and seminar presentations/discussions, as well as poetic, prose, and visual imagery means of communications. **Length:** craft your response to be a minimum of 1,500 words and maximum of 1,800 words, plus any visual images (double-spaced in proper MLA or APA style).

1. From your particular perspective what are the ultimate causes of human hatred and conflict? As you will argue, this is not a simple answer, so you provide a response that identifies and interconnects the varied causes.
2. From your particular perspective what are the means to resolve and bring world peace between nations, ethnic and religious groups, and social classes?
3. As this seminar is a “rite of passage,” now stand back and reflect on the most important huckleberries you experienced, picked and added to your own basket. How have these *mi'yep* impacted who you are and how you might relate to and collaborate with others, particularly those coming from a different cultural community than yourself?