RD 630 Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities

3 Credits
Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.
Recommended: RD 625.
Location: TBD
Meeting Time: TBD

Name: TBD
Office Location: TBD
Office Hours: TBD
Telephone: TBD
Email Address: TBD

Course Textbooks:

Required:

Title #1: Alaska Native Corporations
Authors: Darrell Green & Maria B. Lopez, Editors
Edition/Publisher: Novinka (New York, 2013)

Title #2: Reservation Capitalism, Economic Development in Indian Country
Authors: Robert J. Miller
Edition/Publisher: Novinka (University of Nebraska Press, 2013)

Required Supplementary Readings (excerpts from)

Allaway, James, and Byron Mallott, ANCSA Unrealized: Our Lives Are Not Measured in Dollars, 25 J. Land Resources & Envtl. L. 139 (2005)


Cheney, Gail, Understanding the Future of Native Values at an Alaska Native Corporation (Dissertation, Antioch University, 2014)


GAO, Report to Congress on Regional Alaska Native Corporations’ Status 40 Years after Establishment, and Future Considerations (2012)


Miller, Robert, Economic Development in Indian Country: Will Capitalism or Socialism Succeed?, 80 Or. L. Rev. 757 (2001)


Pullar, Gordon, Indigenous Culture and Organizational Culture, A Case Study of an Alaska Native Organization


Course Description

ND 630 - Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities
3 Credits
This course explores the questions - what does/should economic development and entrepreneurship look like in rural and Native Alaska? What national, state, and tribal policies and laws are desirable, given the history and experience of existing ANCSA corporations (and transnational corporations), tribal enterprises, and small businesses? This course further explores the unique origins and experiences of tribal enterprises and ANCSA corporations, exploring their contradictory purposes from a business standpoint, responsibilities to shareholders and tribal members,
transparency and accountability under federal and state laws, U.S. federal trust responsibility, special tax and business exemptions, and resulting business strategies for rural and Native Alaska.

Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.
Recommended: RD 625

Course Goals

The goal of this course is to provide students with an in depth understanding of the interrelationships between economic development policy, individual and corporate (ANCSA and other) business strategies, and economic development in rural Alaska and the tools to make change and improve economic development outcomes in rural and Alaska Native communities.

Student Learning Outcomes (more specific)

Students will:

(1) Recognize the profile and concerns of successful rural business enterprises/entrepreneurs;

(2) Examine the unique relationship between the U.S. federal government and laws, and U.S. federally recognized tribes and their enterprises;

(3) Explore aspects of the history and purposes of tribal enterprises informing their business structure, culture, legal obligations and limitations;

(4) Identify and compare successful tribal enterprises in the lower 48 (e.g., tribal resource extraction, gaming, etc.);

(5) Analyze the history and conflicting purposes of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)(from a business standpoint), informing the existing business structure, corporate culture, and legal obligations and limitations, at the regional and village levels;

(6) Recognize that government has been intertwined with business in Native Alaska from the outset, e.g., historical problems with ANCSA corporation launch and U.S. federal government/law interventions (e.g., Net Operating Losses, Section 8(a) Minority businesses, etc.), & explore the lingering issue of whether there is a U.S. federal trust responsibility to keep ANCSA corporations solvent;

(7) Explore the purpose and experience of ANCSA corporations and the experience of 7(i) “revenue-sharing;”
Syllabus for RD 630 - Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities

(8) Explore aspects of the history and purposes of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) informing the presence of transnational corporations in rural Alaska, their business structure and culture, legal obligations and limitations; and

(9) Develop & analyze rural Alaska business case studies.

Instructional Methods

This course will use lecture, case study, small group discussion, and it will also use Blackboard and audio conferencing.

Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments &amp; Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introductions &amp; Overview</td>
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</table>
| Profile & Concerns of Successful Rural Business | R.M., Reservation Capitalism, Economic Development in Indian Country (2013), Chapter 7 – Indian Entrepreneurship  
Evergreen Case Study – Hide & Skin: An Alaska Tannery Conundrum, by Jeri Ruben & Irfan Ahmed |                          |
| **Week 2**                      | Economic Activity in Native America in General | R.M., Economic Development in Indian Country: Will Capitalism or Socialism Succeed?, 80 Or. L. Rev. 757 (2001)  
|                                | Same as Above | Same as Above |                          |
| **Week 3**                      | Current Economic Activity in Native America | R.M., Reservation Capitalism, Economic Development in Indian Country (2013), Chapter 8 – Creating Reservation Economies  
Evergreen Case Study – Should Tribes Legalize Marijuana?, by Amber Seachord & Barbara Leigh Smith |                          |
<p>|                                | Same as Above | Same as Above | Case Study Reflection #1 Due |
| <strong>Week 4</strong>                      |                                                                          |                          |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Material</th>
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| Week 5    | Alaska Native Corporations – ANCSA: Corporate/Shareholding Structure, Then & Now | C&V, Chapter 1 – The Federal Relationship to Alaska Natives (pp. 1 – 52)  
GAO, Report to Congress on Regional Alaska Native Corporations’ Status 40 Years after Establishment, & Future Considerations (2012)(excerpts)  
Evergreen Case Study – Alaska Natives & American Indian Policy, by Linda Moon Stumpff  
Same as Above  
Same as Above                                                                 |
| Week 6    | Alaska Native Corporations – ANCSA: The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (pp. 165 – 178)  
GAO, Report to Congress on Regional Alaska Native Corporations’ Status 40 Years after Establishment, & Future Considerations (2012)(excerpts)  
Case Study Reflection #2 Due  
Same as Above  
Same as Above  
Case Study Reflection #2 Due  |
| Week 7    | Alaska Native Corporations – the NOL Experience  
Same as Above  
Same as Above  
Same as Above  |
| Week 8    | Alaska Native Corporations – Section 7(j) Revenue Sharing  
Evergreen Case Study – Distributive Justice in Indian Country: Should Indian Tribes Share Casino Revenues?, by Sarah S. Works  
Same as Above  
Same as Above  |
| Week 9    | Alaska Political Dynamics & Business  
T, S, & K, Alaska Politics & Public Policy, The Dynamics of Beliefs, Institutions, Personalities, & Power (2016), Chapter 6 – Alaska’s Political Economy: Structure & Power Dynamics  
Same as Above  
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<th>Week 10</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Business of Resource Extraction</strong></td>
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<th>Week 11</th>
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<th>Week 12</th>
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<td><strong>Alaska Native Corporations – Contemporary Shareholder Issues (transparency &amp; attempts to accomplish social welfare objectives)</strong></td>
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| Week 13 |
# Syllabus for RD 630 - Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Week 15</th>
<th>Final Original Case Studies Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen Case Study – Child Care Considerations at the Skinny Raven Casino, by Dennis Gawlik, Kate Lancaster, &amp; Linda Lovett</td>
<td>Same as Above</td>
<td>Final Original Case Studies Due</td>
</tr>
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## Course Policies

### Attendance

**Attendance in class is required. Attendance and participation are part of your grade.** You may miss two class sessions for any reason and not be penalized on your grade. However, after two missed classes, you will start to lose attendance and participation points, which will negatively impact your grade. “Participation” means that you attend class, show up on time, are prepared for class by doing the required readings before class, and attempt to answer questions when called upon.

### Policy on Incomplete (I) and No Basis (NB) grades

No NB grades will be awarded in this course. A student who is not participating sufficiently in the course and who will obtain at least a “D” grade will be advised of this before the final deadline for withdrawal and be given the opportunity to...
withdraw from the course. Students should review the syllabus and schedule and make sure that they can schedule the time needed for attendance and assignments in this course. Students are responsible for checking their progress and making arrangements to withdraw from the course if they find they cannot keep up with the work.

An "I" grade will be awarded only under truly extenuating circumstances and in cases where the student would have earned at least a “C” grade in the course. The student must have discussed the extenuating circumstance with the instructor as soon as it began to interfere with course-work in order to be considered for an “I” grade. If an “I” grade is awarded, the student will be expected to complete outstanding work within a short time period (weeks not months) unless a physical limitation dictates otherwise.

### Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation &amp; Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Class Attendance &amp; Participation</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case Study Reflection Papers (3)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper 1 – Due TBD</td>
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<td>Paper 2 – Due TBD</td>
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<td>Paper 3 – Due TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case Study/Readings</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Facilitation of Group Discussion</strong> (graduate students)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Original Case Study</strong></td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final Presentation</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Due TBD</td>
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**Case Study Reflection Papers**

Students are expected to complete three reflection papers (3-4 double-spaced pages in length) that respond to their choice of the assigned Evergreen case studies. The reflection papers are not intended to be summaries. Rather they are an opportunity for you to apply critical thinking skills to the materials/topics covered in this course.
Students are expected to respond to the specific questions accompanying each case study.

**Case Study Presentation/Facilitation of Group Discussion**
Each student will be assigned three case studies and/or readings and will be expected to (on three class dates): (a) prepare a 15 minute Power Point presentation summarizing key concepts; (b) facilitate a 20-30 minute group discussion; and (c) identify 3-4 discussion questions. Power Point presentations and discussion questions must be emailed to the instructor the day prior to your presentation.

**Development of a New Case Study**

Students will draft a new rural Alaska-specific case study on business concerns in rural Alaska, in one of the following areas:

- *Small, private enterprise*
- *Tribal enterprise*
- *ANCSA regional or village corporation*
- *Transnational corporation*
  - Or
- *An approved variation/topic*

**Case Study/Presentation**

Students will prepare and present a 20-25 minute in-class presentation based upon their draft original case study. Students are encouraged to prepare a 10-12 slide Power Point presentation. Power Point presentations must be emailed to the instructor the day prior to your presentation.

**What is a Case Study?**

We will be using the approaches, methods, and materials (case studies) of Evergreen State College’s Enduring Legacies Native Cases Initiatives at [http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/index.html](http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/index.html) The following is taken and modified from the Evergreen materials.

“Cases are simply stories with an educational message, but they pose problems or dilemmas.”

- *Writer Guidelines for the Enduring Legacies Native Case Initiative, Evergreen State College.*
Sources of Cases
Cases come in all shapes and sizes. Possible sources are unlimited. Use all sorts of materials to spark ideas and issues for cases, including the Internet (blogs & websites, etc.), newspapers, journals, reports, cartoons, public hearings, memos, letters, minutes of meetings, etc.

Different Types of Cases
There are many different types of cases. Analysis/Issue Cases, ask “what happened?” Dilemma or Decision Cases, ask not only “what happened but also what do we want to do about it?” Trigger Cases are very short cases designed to start a conversation about a topic. Clicker Cases take the form of a powerpoint presentation delivered through lecture, punctuated by questions. They use the technology of “clickers” for students to participate in the discussion by voting with their “clicker.” Interrupted Cases are multi-part chronological cases based on progressive disclosure. Students read and discuss each part separately with additional information provided in each section of the case.

What Makes a Good Case?
Good cases are generally characterized by the four C’s: conflict, context, complexity, and challenge. They are engaging and thought provoking, decision-forcing, and without easy answers. Accuracy, credibility, and the ability to generalize to other settings are important qualities and it is most important that they address significant issues. In addition, good cases are driven by clear objectives with challenging case questions that raise pertinent issues for furthering the analysis. They usually have a balance between a good engaging story line and enough context and factual information so the central problem or issue of the case can be generalized to shine light on other settings and similar problems.

How Long Should a Case Be?
For our purposes, 10-20 pages, SINGLE SPACED.

Steps in Writing a Case
Cases are often written in one of two general ways – either starting with concepts and developing the case story around them or starting with the story and drawing the concepts out of the story. Ideas for cases are often provoked by one encountering a problem that is difficult to explain, and where controversy is implicit. You might decide, for example to focus on economic development issues in Native communities and move from that general topical focus to more specific policy, law, and/or business concepts and analytical approaches that explain various problem areas and solutions. Starting from the other direction, you might want to work from a story about an innovative program that a small business, tribal enterprise, or ANCSA corporation has established. You may be concerned by situations that have not been sufficiently explained, such as the impacts of business on subsistence resources, or the different status and benefits for ANCSA shareholders versus other Alaska Natives.
General Steps

**Step 1:** Picking a topic – brainstorm with your team, research the Internet or other sources, think about the topic from different perspectives, e.g., as a business owner, a consumer, a parent, a citizen, the government, your own experience, etc.

**Step 2:** Briefly describe your case idea on an index card in a sentence or two

**Step 3:** Begin investigating sources of information and develop an initial bibliography including potential contacts for interviews

**Step 4:** Elaborate on your case idea through a brief outline, including an abstract, historical background, other relevant background information, the analysis, and the learning objectives

**Step 5:** Write the first finished good draft of your case

**Step 6:** Ask other people to read your draft and give you suggestions for improvement. Revise. Revise. Revise.

**Step 7:** Write the teaching notes for your case clearly following the format. It is important that the information in your case supports the learning objectives and learning activities.

The most difficult thing for writers is to draft a case that is truly multisided and open-ended rather than an advocacy case for one point of view. One of the best ways to keep this consideration upfront is to make the title of your case a question. Also, the balance between context setting information, analytical components, and the central storyline is critical in making a case seem authentic to the reader.

Review sample case studies at: [http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/index.html](http://nativecases.evergreen.edu/index.html)
Grading System

Letter grades for the course will be determined as follows and will reflect the Grading System and Grade Point Average Computation policy stated in the current UAF Catalog. I will apply plus and minus grades.

A+ ..........100–97%  A..............96–93%  A-............92–90%
B+.............89–87%  B..............86–83%  B-............82–80%
C+...............79–77%  C..............76–73%  C-..........72–70%
D+ .............69–67%  D..............66–63%  D-..........62–60%
F...........less than 60%

A   "A" (including A+ and A-) indicates a thorough mastery of course content and outstanding performance in completion of course requirements.

B   "B" (including B+ and B-) indicates a high level of acquired knowledge and performance in completion of course requirements.

C   "C" (including C+ and C-) indicates a satisfactory level of acquired knowledge and performance in completion of course requirements.

D   "D" (including D+ and D-) indicates a minimal level of acquired knowledge and minimal performance in completion of course requirements. This grade does not satisfy requirements for courses in the major, minor, core or graduate programs.

F   "F" indicates failure to meet a minimal level of understanding of course content and/or performance in completion of course requirements. All F grades, including those earned in pass/fail courses, are included in the GPA calculations.

Go to: https://uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs1.html for more details and grade point computation.

Go to: https://www.uaf.edu/files/uafgov/Info-to-Publicize-C_Grading-Policy-UPDATED-May-2013.pdf for details on "C - Grading Policy."

Support Services

UAF Tutoring Center

The Student Support Services Tutoring Center is located in 514 Gruening and is open Sunday-Friday. Walk-in and scheduled tutoring for one-on-one or small group (up to 3 students) is available.
Syllabus for RD 630 - Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities

See the detailed schedule for available times and tutors. Please call 474-6844 to schedule an appointment.

Go to [https://www.uaf.edu/sss/tutoring-center/](https://www.uaf.edu/sss/tutoring-center/) for more details.

**The UAF Writing Center**

Tutorials. Tutorial appointments at the Writing Center are 30 minutes long. Call or stop by to make an appointment. Walk-in sessions are often available, but in the last half of the semester are often booked.

E-mail/Fax/Telephone Tutoring: The UAF Writing Center provides a telephone tutoring service for those not able to come to the campus location: CRCD students, students enrolled in courses through E-Learning and Distance Education, and those in the Fairbanks-North Star Borough with life demands preventing easy campus access. If you would like a telephone session call the Writing Center (907/474-5314) for an appointment and then e-mail (uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu) or fax (1-800-478-5246) your paper the day of your appointment--by 5:00 pm for an evening session and 12:00 pm for a Sunday afternoon session. The UAF Writing Center will then call you at the set time and collaborate with you on your writing need or needs. They offer telephone tutorials on Monday through Thursday evenings (7:15, 8:15, 9:15) and Sunday afternoon (1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:15).

801 Gruening Bldg., P.O. Box 755720
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5720
Phone: (907) 474-5314
Fax: 1-800-478-5246
Email: uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu
Go to [https://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/](https://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/) for more details.

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**Disabilities Services**

**UAF Disability Services**

UAF Office of Disability Services
Whitaker Building, Room 208
612 N. Chandalar
PO Box 755590
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5590
Phone: (907) 474-5655
TTY: (907) 474-1827
Fax: (907) 474-5688
Disability Services E-mail: uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu

At UAF our goal is to provide UAF students with access to academic classes and course materials through an interactive accommodation process.

UAF Disability Services provides accommodations to students on the Fairbanks campus as well as on the Bristol Bay, Chukchi, Interior Aleutians, Kuskokwim, Northwest, Community Technical College (CTC), UAF eLearning & Distance Education, and College for Rural and Community Development (CRCD) campuses.

Students using community campuses or distance learning programs should contact Disability Services via telephone, fax, e-mail, U.S. postal mail, or in person to request and arrange for accommodations.

UAF is obligated to provide accommodation only to the known limitations of an otherwise qualified student who has a disability. Please identify yourself to UAF Disability Services by applying for accommodations.

To be considered for UAF Disability Services accommodations individuals must be enrolled for at least one credit as a UAF student.

Applications for services can be hand-delivered, emailed, faxed or mailed to Disability Services.

If you need assistance with completion of any form, contact UAF Disability Services by email at uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu, by phone at (907)474-5655, or by TTY at (907)474-1827.

Go to http://www.uaf.edu/disability/ for more details.

UAF Policy Regarding Discrimination, Harassment & Violence

The University of Alaska Board of Regents has clearly stated in BOR Policy that discrimination, harassment and violence will not be tolerated on any campus of the University of Alaska. If you believe you are experiencing discrimination or any form of harassment including sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, you are encouraged to report that behavior. If you disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to a faculty member or any university employee, they must notify the UAF Title IX Coordinator about the basic fact of the incident.

Your choices for disclosure include:
Syllabus for RD 630 - Economic Development Policy and Entrepreneurship in Rural Alaska: Challenges and Opportunities

1. You may confidentially disclose and access confidential counseling by contacting the UAF Health & Counseling Center at 474-7043;

2. You may access support and file a Title IX report by contacting the UAF Title IX Coordinator at 474-6600;

3. You may file a criminal complaint by contacting the University Police Department at 474-7721.

The Conferencing Center

Toll-free dial-in number (U.S. and Canada): (866) 832-7806

International dial-in number: (330) 595-1371

Participant conference code: 2090832

Additional resources:
Go to http://www.meetingconnect.net/rphelp for more information, including a user guide and a list of phone commands.

Get started:

1. I will give you the date and time of the call, your dial-in number (above) and the participant conference code (above).

2. Join the conference by dialing your number and entering the participant conference code.

Helpful Keypad Commands:
*0    Operator assistance – conference
00    Operator assistance – individual
*1    Dial-out to a participant – leader only
*2    Begin/end conference record – leader only
*3    Change entry/exit method (recorded names, tones, silence) – leader only
*4    Private roll call
*5/#5 Mute/unmute all participant lines – leader only
*6/#6 Mute/unmute your own line
*7/#7 Lock/unlock conference (including operator) – leader only
*8    Allow/disallow conference continuation – leader only
*9    Start/join sub-conferencing
11    Third-party conference start – bypass hold music to start call as leader
*51/#51 Lecture mode on/off – leader only
#99   Disconnect all lines except leader’s – leader only
*#    Participant count
UAF students are subject to the Student Code of Conduct.

UAF requires students to conduct themselves honestly and responsibly, and to respect the rights of others.

Honesty is a primary responsibility of yours and every other UAF student. The following are common guidelines regarding academic integrity:

Students will not represent the work of others as their own. Students will attribute the source of information not original with themselves (direct quotes or paraphrases) in compositions, theses and other reports.

No work submitted for one course may be submitted for credit in another course without the explicit approval of both instructors. Alleged violations of the Code of Conduct will be reviewed in accordance with procedures specified in regents policy, university regulations and UAF rules and procedures. For additional information and details about the Student Code of Conduct, please visit www.uaf.edu/deanofstudents/.

http://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/