

Native Americans in North America from 1830 to the Present

HST 379: Spring 2008

Berkey Hall, 110

Monday and Wednesday, 3:00 PM to 4:20 PM

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Course Overview:

Over the last 40 years, Native American history has developed into a vibrant field that is central to understanding the larger processes and developments of North American history. As a class, we will be engaging and studying the history of Native Americans in North America from the 1830s to the present. Through lectures, readings, discussions, and documentaries, this class will provide not just an overview of this extensive and intricate history, but a deeper appreciation and understanding of the Native American peoples: their struggles, failures, successes, and survivance in North America.

Required Readings:

- 1) *The Long, Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*, by Anthony F.C. Wallace (1993)
- 2) *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*, by Theda Perdue, editor (2001)
- 3) *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock: Treaty Rights and Indian Law at the End of the Nineteenth Century*, by Blue Clark (1999)
- 4) *House Made of Dawn*, by N. Scott Momaday (2000)
- 5) *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto*, by Vine Deloria Jr. (1988)
- 6) *The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights*, by Larry Nespers (2002)
- 7) *Ten Little Indians*, by Sherman Alexie (2004)

Graded Work and Grading:

Participation: (10%)

Attendance will be kept every class period. Students will be allowed two unexcused absence for the entire semester, before being penalized half a grade per absence afterward. For a successful class, participation is necessary, which means coming to class prepared.

Weekly Reading Quizzes: (10%)

There will be 10 random reading quizzes throughout the semester. The quizzes will test your understanding of the texts, and ensure your continual and active engagement in the readings.

Group Historiography Project: (20%)

As a way of injecting more of the historical literature into the course, each student will be assigned a group and a book, and working together, these groups will create a historiographical presentation that discusses, explores, and highlights some of the major works, controversies, and arguments in Native American history. More information about this assignment will be given as the semester progresses.

Mid-Term Exam (25%) and Final Exam: (35%)

Both the mid-term and final exams are blue book. Blue books must be given to the professor on the class day before the exam. The exams will consist of two essay questions. Both questions will be drawn from the readings and from the in class materials.

Each assignment will receive a grade on a 0.0 - 4.0 scale.

Example: If you received a 2.5 for participation, a 3.5 on your historiographical group project, a 3.0 on your mid-term exam, and a 4.0 on your final exam, you can figure out your grade in the following way - -

$$(2.5 * .1) + (2.0 * .1) + (3.5 * .2) + (3.0 * .25) + (4.0 * .35) = 3.3, \text{ or } 3.5 \text{ overall.}$$

CHEATING OR PLAGERISM OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. IF CAUGHT, I WILL SEEK THE HARSHEST PUNISHMENT POSSIBLE. SO, PLEASE DO NOT TRY IT.

If you do not know what constitutes cheating, please refer to:
<http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/plagiarism.html>

Course Calendar:

ALL ASSIGNMENTS/READINGS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE CLASS PERIOD IN WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED.

WEEK 1

Monday, January 12, 2009

Class Topic #1:

Frederick Jackson Turner, Wild Bill, and the Cant of American Exceptionalism: A Course Introduction.

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Class Topic #2:

From Pre-Contact to Contact: A Brief Overview of North American Native American History to 1492.

Reading:

Raymond D. Fogelson, "The Ethnohistory of Events and Nonevents" (On Angel.)

Neal Salisbury, "The Indians' Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans" (On Angel.)

WEEK 2

Monday, January 19, 2009

NO CLASS:

Martin Luther King's Day

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

Class Topic #3:

Encounter, Colonialism, and the "Empire of Liberty," 1492 to 1783 - -

Reading:

Helen C. Roundtree's "Pocahontas: The Hostage who Became Famous" in Theda Perdue's *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*.

James T. Merrill's "The Indian's New World: The Catawba Experience" (On Angel.)

WEEK 3

Monday, January 26, 2009

Class Topic #4:

Expansion with honor?: Revitalization, Pan-Indianism, and American Indian Policy in the Early Republic.

Reading:

1) Indian Removal Act, 1830 (On Angel.)

2) Anthony F.C. Wallace, *The Long, Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*, Introduction through Chapter 2.

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Class Topic #5:

'John Marshall has made his decision; now let him enforce it!': Cherokee Removal, the Trail of Tears, and American Indian Law.

Readings:

Andrew Jackson's Second Annual Message (On Angel.)

Anthony F.C. Wallace, *The Long, Bitter Trail: Andrew Jackson and the Indians*, Chapter 3 through Aftermath.

WEEK 4

Monday, February 2, 2009

FILM:

The Trail of Tears: Cherokee Legacy (2006), dir. Chip Richie, Steven Heape. (115 minutes)

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Class Topic #6:

The Indian West before Lewis and Clark: Empire, Ecology, and Economics.

Reading:

Dan Flores, "Bison Ecology and Bison Diplomacy: The Southern Plains from 1800 to 1850" (On Angel.)

Pekka Hämäläinen, "The Rise and Fall of Plains Indian Horse Cultures" (On Angel.)

WEEK 5

Monday, February 9, 2009

Class Topic #7:

Territorial Expansion and Indian Resistance in Antebellum United States, 1820 – 1860.

Reading:

Donna Barbie's "Sacagawea: The Making of a Myth" in Theda Perdue's *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*.

Laura Jane Moore's "Lozen: An Apache Woman Warrior" in Theda Perdue's *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*.

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Class Topic #8:

The Civil War in Indian Country: From Eli Parker to Sand Creek

Reading:

Arrell Morgan Gibson, "Native Americans and the Civil War" (On Angel.)

WEEK 6

Monday, February 16, 2009

Class Topic #10:

'The Only Good Indian is a Dead Indian': The Indian Wars to 1870.

Reading:

The Treaty of Fort Laramie, 1868 (On Angel.)

The Battle of Little Bighorn: An Eyewitness Account by the Lakota Chief Red Horse, 1881 (On Angel.)

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Class Topic #11:

'The Only Good Indian is a Dead Indian': Treaties, Massacres, and Confinement.

Reading:

The Dawes General Allotment Act, 1887 (On Angel.)

"The Messiah Letter" (On Angel.)

"Accounts of the Massacre at Wounded Knee" (On Angel.)

WEEK 7

Monday, February 23, 2009

Class Topic #12:

'Kill the Indian and Save the Man': Law, Family, and Education during Allotment.

Reading:

Blue Clark, *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock: Treaty Rights and Indian Law at the End of the Nineteenth Century* (1999), Preface through Chapter 6.

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Class Topic #13:

'Do you know that I ran away from school?': Cultural, Religious, and Political Resistance during Allotment.

Reading:

Blue Clark, *Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock: Treaty Rights and Indian Law at the End of the Nineteenth Century* (1999), Chapter 7 through Epilogue.

WEEK 8

Monday, March 2, 2009

FILM:

In the White Man's Image (1992), dir. Christine Lesiak. (60 minutes)

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

MID-TERM EXAM

WEEK 9

Monday, March 9, 2009

NO CLASS: Spring Break

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

NO CLASS: Spring Break

WEEK 10

Monday, March 16, 2009

Class Topic #14:

Indian Participation in World War I and II: Why Fight?

Reading:

Russell Lawrence Barsh, "American Indians in the Great War" (On Angel.)

Visit: <http://www.history.navy.mil/library/online/indians.htm>

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Class Topic #15:

The Indian New Deal: John Collier, and Reform?

Reading:

John Collier's "A New Deal for the American Indian" (On Angel.)

John Collier's "We Took Away Their Best Lands, Broke Treaties" (On Angel.)

Laurence M. Hauptman's "Alice Lee Jemison: A Modern 'Mother of the Nation' in Theda Purdue's *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*.

WEEK 11

Monday, March 23, 2009

HISTORIOGRAPHY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS: Groups #1, #2, & #3

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

HISTORIOGRAPHY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS: Groups #4, #5, & #6

WEEK 12

Monday, March 30, 2009

Class Topic #16:

Termination, Relocation, and Urbanism: Towards Alcatraz, and thereafter.

Reading:

Read first half of N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of Dawn* (2000).

Michael C. Walch, "Terminating the Indian Termination Policy" (On Angel.)

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Class Topic #17:

An Indian Renaissance in Literature, Art, and Education

Reading:

Finish N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of Dawn* (2000).

WEEK 13

Monday, April 6, 2009

Class Topic #18:

From Alcatraz to Nixon: American Indian Activism in the 1960s and 1970s.

Reading:

Pgs. vii – 124 of Vine Deloria's *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto*. (1969)

Dean J. Kotlowski, "Alcatraz, Wounded Knee, and beyond: The Nixon and Ford Administrations Respond to Native American Protest" (On Angel.)

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

FILM:

The Spirit of Annie Mae (2002), dir. C.A. Martin. (73 minutes)

Reading:

Pgs. 125 – 268 of Vine Deloria's *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto*. (1969)

Devon A. Mihesuah's "Anna Mae Pictou-Aquash: An American Indian Activist" in Theda Purdue's *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*.

WEEK 14

Monday, April 13, 2009

Lecture #19:

The New Indian Wars of the 1970s and 1980s: Defending Natural Resources and Re-claiming Treaty Rights.

Reading:

Larry Nesper, *The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights*, Introduction through Chapter 5.

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Lecture #20:

Sovereignty and Self-Determination: Law and Politics in Contemporary Native America.

Reading:

Larry Nesper, *The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights*, Chapter 6 through Epilogue.

WEEK 15

Monday, April 20, 2009

Lecture #21:

Capitalizing on Indians and Racism: Illinois and the Controversy over Mascots

FILM:

In Whose Honor? (1997), dir. Jay Rosenstein. (47 minutes)

Reading:

Read: "The Search Engine," "Lawyer's League," "Can I Get a Witness?," and "Do Not Go Gentle" in Sherman Alexie's *Ten Little Indians*.

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Lecture #22:

Capitalizing on Casinos: The Risks, Benefits, and Paradoxes of Indian Gaming.

Reading:

Read the remainder of the short stories in Sherman Alexie's *Ten Little Indians*.

WEEK 16:

Monday, April 27, 2009

Lecture #23:

On Adopting Barack Obama: A Course Summation.

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Exam Review, Course Evaluation, and Good-byes.

FINAL EXAM: THURSDAY, MAY 7, 3:00 – 5:00 PM
CLASS ROOM TO BE ANNOUNCED.