

Forging Connections: American Indian History from Ancient North America to Indian Removal & Beyond

HIS 333 (CRN: 80559): MHRA 1214

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Fall 2014: MWF, 11-11:50

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I. Course Summary

This course investigates the sweeping changes and enduring continuities that punctuated Native North America between the era of the first hunter-gatherers and the forced removal of American Indians to reservations in the nineteenth-century United States. It traces the history of Native people and their encounters with European and African newcomers in the Northeast, the Southeast, the Southwest, and the Northwest Coast. Each of these regions contained a mishmash of cultural beliefs and practices, shifting political structures, local and far-flung trade networks, various language families and dialects, and diplomatic customs that were the building-blocks of fluid alliance systems. The central theme of this course emphasizes the connections that Native, European, African, and Métis peoples forged in the changing world of Native North America.

In this course, you will be trained in the methods and concepts of “ethnohistory” (a combination of history and anthropology). As ethnohistorians, you will examine the cultures and lifeways of dozens of indigenous groups (anthropology/synchronic), and trace the political, social, and cultural changes of those groups over time (history/diachronic). Part and parcel to this enterprise, this course also introduces you to the concept of “historiography” or the history of the historical scholarship on a given topic.

II. Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Command a thorough knowledge of the diversity and complexity of Native people in North America and the world
- Apply a methodology—i.e. “ethnohistory”—to the study of Indian people by using primary and secondary sources
- Discuss key themes relevant to ethnohistory, such as trade, diplomacy, warfare, power, and culture
- Hold a greater appreciation for Native perspectives
- Master a segment of the Native American historiography
- Achieve a higher proficiency in communication skills

III. Required Reading:

Colin G. Calloway, *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*, 4th ed. (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012).

Albert L. Hurtado et al., *Major Problems in American Indian History*, 3rd ed. (Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, 2015).

Seth Mallios, *The Deadly Politics of Giving: Exchange and Violence at Ajacan, Roanoke, and Jamestown* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2006).

Jace Weaver, *The Red Atlantic: American Indigenes and the Making of the Modern World, 1000-1927* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2014).

IV. Course Requirements

- **10%: Participation.** You're allowed four excused absences with no penalty.
- **15%: Book Review.**
- **20%: Tribal Study.**
- **20%: Historiographical Essay.**
- **35%: Case Study.**

V. Evaluation of Final Grade

A = Student achieves a high competency in all learning objectives.

B = Student achieves a high competency in most learning objectives.

C = Student demonstrates a fair competency of most learning objectives.

D = Student lacks understanding in most learning objectives.

F = Student performed no work.

VI. Course Guidelines

- Please bring Calloway (and other relevant materials) to every class.
- Late work: I will accept late work but with a penalty.

Schedule

Unit One

The Original "Early" America

8/18, M

8/20, W -

8/22, F -

8/25, M -

8/27, W -

8/29, F -

9/1, M - No class.

9/3, W -

Unit Two

Contact, Invasions, and Negotiations

9/5, F -

9/8, M -

9/10, W -

9/12, F - Review of Mallios due

9/15, M -

9/17, W -

Unit Three
Imperial and Native Adjustments

9/19, F -

9/22, M -

9/24, W -

9/26, F -

9/29, M -

10/1, W -

10/3, F -

Unit Four
Wars, Revolutions, and New World Orders

10/6, M -

10/8, W -

10/10, F - No class. Work on Tribal study

10/13, M - Fall break “ ”

10/15, W - Tribal study due

10/17, F -

10/20, M -

10/22, W -

10/24, F -

Unit Five
American Indians in the United States & the World

10/27, M -

10/29, W -

10/31, F - Discuss historiography assignment

11/3, M -

11/5, W -

11/7, F -

11/10, M -

Unit Six
Native Americans in a Modern World

11/12, W -

11/14, F -

11/17, M - Historiography assignment **due**

11/19, W -

11/21, F - Discuss “doing” research

11/24, M -

12/1, W -

12/8, 3 P.M., Monday. Case Study due.