History 333: American Indian History to 1840

University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Fall 2016 MWF 10-10:50
Classroom: BRYN 205
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Office Hours: MW 11-12 or by appointment

“One is astonished in the study of history at the recurrence of the idea that evil must be forgotten, distorted, skimmed over. We must not remember that Daniel Webster got drunk and only remember that he was a splendid constitutional lawyer. We must forget that George Washington was a slave owner... simply remember the things we regard as creditable and inspiring. The difficulty, of course, with this philosophy is that history loses its value as an incentive and example; it paints perfect men and noble nations, but it does not tell the truth.”

-W.E.B Du Bois, “The Propaganda of History”

The Course:

This course will provide you with a historical perspective on the major themes and events that affected the First Peoples of what is now the United States. Our analysis will begin with the first settlers (19k-40k BP) and conclude with the era of Indian Removal (1830s CE). The class is not a survey of European, and later American, engagements and interactions with Native Americans rather it seeks to assess the history of American Indians from their perspective and experience. As such, the course will rely on a greater range of sources than you may have experienced previously. Do not be frightened or off-put if you do not understand some of the material or frameworks! Bring your concerns or questions to class where we can discuss them as, likely, your classmates have the same inquiries. Finally, the class does not offer a simple or comprehensive overview of the past but instead will focus on a variety of many important topics including: gender, slavery, pan-Indianism, the environment, colonialism, and race.
Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon concluding the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and articulate major events, themes, and contested areas of American Indian history from the peopling of North America through Indian Removal.
2. Examine and contextualize primary source data related to the history of the Native Peoples of North America.
3. Critically read and distinguish between different types of historical sources and identify (as well as interpret the reasons for) divergences.
4. Identify arguments from secondary sources as well as critically evaluate the validity of said arguments.
5. Use a variety of secondary sources to identify a historical problem and assess the current academic treatment of that problem.
6. Finally, students will comprehend that history is not the memorization of dates and “facts” but the interpretation of the past.

Course Readings:

You have one required text for this course: Colin G. Calloway’s *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History* (5th Edition) ISBN: 9781457696244. It is available at the campus bookstore as well as various other online retailers. There is a lower cost eTextbook version available.

Other required readings will be provided via Canvas. Please make sure that you are able to access our course site!

Assignments:

Book Review: 20%

Primary Source Analysis (3): 10% Each

History in Action/On Display Assignment: 15%

Annotated Bibliography: 25%

Participation: 10%

*Specific outlines and expectations for the assignments, aside from participation, will be provided on the dates listed on the course calendar.

Participation: 10% of your grade will be determined by “participation.” It will measure your attendance in class, your level of engagement, and contribution to class discussion/activities.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of others without giving them credit. Any source that you use in your work (i.e. books, documents, articles, webpages, etc...) must be
properly cited. If you use someone else’s exact words they must be enclosed in quotation marks and be followed by a citation. If you put someone else’s ideas into your own words, you must also use a citation.

*PLEASE NOTE: Plagiarism includes copying and pasting any text from the internet into a document without using quotation marks and a citation.

Anyone who commits plagiarism will be penalized severely. For more information, see UNCG’s academic integrity policy: http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu/complete/

All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students.

**Use of Technology in the Classroom:**

It the opinion of the instructor that you are all adults and should be treated accordingly. Therefore, technology may be used to take notes or access relevant information (e.g., looking up material from an e-text or article). However, the use of technology is not a right but a privilege and may be revoked at the discretion of the instructor.

**Course Calendar:**

**Week 1 - Introduction and What is History/What do Historians Do?**

Monday, August 22nd: Review the syllabus and answer any questions

Wednesday, August 24th: What is History? What do Historians do?

- *First Peoples* “Introduction: American Indians in American History”

- Excerpt from James W. Loewen’s *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*

- Schlerth, Thomas J. “Collecting Ideas and Artifacts: Common Problems of History Museums and History Texts.”

Friday, August 26th: Project Descriptions of Book Reviews and Primary Source Analysis

- *First Peoples* “Documents: A Navajo Emergence Story and an Iroquois Creation Story”

**Week 2 America before Columbus**

Monday, August 29th: Native Origins

- *First Peoples* pp. 14-19

- Gugliotta, Guy. “*When Did Humans Come to the Americas?”*

Wednesday, August 31st: Native Societies before European Contact

- *First Peoples* pp. 20-39
- Pauketat, Timothy. “Cahokia: A Pre-Columbian City.”
- Bayman, James M. “The Hohokam of Southwest North America”

Friday September 2nd: First Book Review Discussion

Books for Consideration:

J. M. Adovasio, The First Americans: In Pursuit of Archaeology’s Greatest Mystery
Thomas D. Dillehay, The Settlement of the Americas: A New Prehistory
Charles C. Mann, 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus

**Week 3 The Invasions of America**

Monday, September 5th- Labor Day Holiday (No Class).

Wednesday, September 7th: First Contact

*First Peoples* pp. 72-77

- Salisbury, Neal. “The Indians’ Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans”
- Sabo III, George. “Encounters and Images: European Contact and the Caddo Indians”

Friday, September 9th: First Primary Source Assignment Due and Discussed

**Week 4 The Invasions of America (Continued)**

Monday, September 12th: American Indians Confront the Spanish and the French

*First Peoples* pp. 79-94

- White, Bruce M. “Encounters with Spirits: Ojibwa and Dakota Theories about the French and Their Merchandise”

Wednesday, September 14th: American Indians Confront the English

*First Peoples* pp. 95-104

- Merrell, James H. “The Indians’ New World: The Catawba Experience,”

Friday, September 16th: Second Book Review Discussion

Books for Consideration:
Robbie Ethridge, *From Chicaza to Chickasaw: The European Invasion and the Transformation of the Mississippian World, 1540-1715*

Colin G. Calloway, *One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West before Lewis and Clark*

Charles Hudson, *Knights of Spain, Warriors of the Sun: Hernando de Soto and the South’s Ancient Chiefdoms*

Frederic Gleach, *Powhatan’s World and Colonial Virginia*

**Week 5 The Invasions and the Environment**

Monday, September 19th: Changes in the Land and the Populous

- Crosby, Alfred. “Virgin Soil Epidemics as a Factor in the Aboriginal Depopulation in America”


Wednesday, September 21st: In Class Exercise

Friday, September 23rd: Third Book Review Discussion

Books for Consideration:


- Alfred Crosby, *The Columbian Exchange*

- Shepard Krech, *The Ecological Indian: Myth and History*

**Week 6 American Indians in a Colonial World**

Monday, September 26th: Economic (and other) Exchanges

- *First Peoples* pp. 138-149

- Excerpt from *Rethinking the Fur Trade*

- Ramsey, William L. “A Coat for 'Indian Cuffy': Mapping the Boundary between Freedom and Slavery in Colonial South Carolina,”

Wednesday, September 28th: Wars and Diplomacy (18th Century)

- *First Peoples* pp. 149-172

Friday, September 25th: Wars and Diplomacy continued
Week 7 Annotated Bibliography Overview

Monday, October 3rd: Fourth Book Review Discussion
Books for Consideration:
Kathryn Braund, Deerskins and Duffels: Creek Indian Trade with Anglo-America, 1685-1815
Allan Gallay, ed., Indian Slavery in Colonial America
Andrew Knaut, The Pueblo Revolt: Conquest and Resistance in Seventeenth-Century New Mexico
Peter Silver, Our Savage Neighbors: How Indian War Transformed Early America

Wednesday, October 5th: Annotated Bibliography Assignment Discussion

Friday, October 7th: Second Primary Source Analysis Due and Discussed

Week 8 Native Women and Gender

Monday, October 10th: Indian Women
- Miheusah, Devon A. “Commonalty of Difference: American Indian Women and History,”
- Shoemaker, Nancy. “Native-American Women in History”
- Roundtree, Helen. “Powhatan Indian Women: The People Captain John Smith Barely Saw,”

Wednesday, October 12th: American Indians and Gender
- White, Bruce M. “The Woman Who Married a Beaver: Trade Patterns and Gender Roles in the Ojibwa Fur Trade”

Friday, October 14th: Fifth Book Review Discussion
Books for Consideration:
Gunlög Fur, A Nation of Women: Gender and Colonial Encounters Among the Delaware Indians
Ramon Gutierrez, When Jesus Came the Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sexuality, and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846
Week 9 Racial Interactions and Relations

Monday, October 17th: No Class - Fall Break

Wednesday, October 19th: Racial Interactions and Relations

- Shoemaker, Nancy. “How Indians Got to Be Red”
- Bateman, Rebecca B. “Africans and Indians: A Comparative Study of the Black Carib and Black Seminole”

Friday, October 21st: Sixth Book Review Discussion

Books for Consideration:

- James F. Brooks, ed., *Confounding the Color Line: The Indian-Black Experience in North America*
- Tiya Miles and Sharon P. Holland, eds., *Crossing Waters, Crossing Worlds: The African Diaspora in Indian Country*
- Theda Perdue, *“Mixed blood” Indians: Racial Construction in the Early South*
- Claudio Saunt, *Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family*

Week 10 The American Revolution in the Indian World

Monday, October 24th: Revolutions Across America

- *First Peoples* pp. 200-232

Wednesday, October 26th: Revolution continued

- Fitz, Caitlin A. ““Suspected on Both Sides”: Little Abraham, Iroquois Neutrality, and the American Revolution”

Friday, October 28th: Seventh Book Review Discussion

Books for Consideration:

- Colin Calloway, *The American Revolution in Indian Country*
- Thomas Hatley, *The Dividing Paths: Cherokees and South Carolinians through the Era of Revolution*
- James O'Donnell, *The Southern Indians in the Revolution*
- Alan Taylor, *The Divided Ground: Indians, Settlers, and the Northern Borderland of the American Revolution*

**Week 11 Halloween and Pan-Indianism**

Monday, October 31st (Halloween): In Class Assignment and Annotated Bibliography Draft Due

Wednesday, November 2nd: Religion and Pan-Indianism

- Excerpt from Alfred Cave’s *Prophets of the Great Spirit*

Friday, November 4th: Pan-Indianism

- Excerpt from *A Spirited Resistance*

**Week 12 Pan-Indianism continued**

Monday, November 7th: Pan-Indianism continued

- 2nd Excerpt from *A Spirited Resistance*

Wednesday, November 9th: Eighth Book Review and Discussion

Books for Consideration:

- Alfred Cave, *Prophets of the Great Spirit: Native American Revitalization Movements in Eastern North America*
- Gregory Dowd, *War Under Heaven: Pontiac, the Indian Nations & the British Empire*
- David Edmunds, *The Shawnee Prophet*
- Anthony Wallace, *The Death and Rebirth of the Seneca*

Friday, November 11th: Annotated Bibliography Draft Review

**Week 13 American Indians and the United States of America**

Monday, November 14th: Indians Confront the United States

- *First Peoples* pp. 254-265

Wednesday, November 16th: Indians Confront the United States continued

- Braud, Kathryn “Civilizing” *Native Peoples: American Policies to Remake Tribal Worlds*

Friday, November 18th: Ninth Book Review and Discussion

Books for Consideration:

- Reginald Horsman, *Expansion and American Indian Policy, 1783-1812*
- Frederick Hoxie, ed., *Native Americans and the Early Republic*
- Bernard Sheehan, *Seeds of Extinction: Jeffersonian Philanthropy and the American Indian*
- Wiley Sword, *President Washington's Indian War*

**Week 14 Thanksgiving Holiday**

Monday, November 21st: American Indians and Thanksgiving

- Excerpt from James W. Loewen's *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*

- Toensing, Gale Courey. "*What Really Happened at the First Thanksgiving? The Wampanoag Side of the Tale.*"

Wednesday, November 23rd: No Class Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 25th: No Class Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 15 Indian Removal**

Monday, November 28th: Indian Removal

- *First Peoples* pp. 266-281

- Harvey, Sean P. “Must Not Their Languages Be Savage and Barbarous Like Them?” Philology, Indian Removal, and Race Science”

Wednesday, November 30th: Indian Removal

- Carson, James Taylor “"The Obituary of Nations": Ethnic Cleansing, Memory, and the Origins of the Old South"

Friday, December 2nd: Tenth Book Review and Discussion

Books for Consideration:

- John P. Bowes, *Exiles and Pioneers: Eastern Indians in the Trans-Mississippi West*
- Michael D. Green, *The Politics of Indian Removal: Creek Government and Society in Crisis*
- Theda Perdue and Michael D. Green, *The Cherokee Nation and the Trail of Tears*
- Robert Remini, *Andrew Jackson and his Indian Wars*

**Week 16**

Monday, December 5: Wrap-up and Final Draft of Annotated Bibliography Due

Exam Date: History in Action/On Display Assignment Due

*Changes to the syllabus may occur at the discretion of the instructor.*