

Ethnic Studies 112B
Summer Session I
July 2, 2007-August 4, 2007

History of Native Americans in the United States II

Instructor: Theo Verinakis
Time: MW 6pm to 8:50pm
Location: Sequo 148
Office Hours: Monday 5pm to 6pm, Wednesday 5pm to 6pm, or by appointment
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Course Description

This course examines the history of Native Americans in the United States, with emphasis on the lifeways, mores, warfare, cultural adaptation and relations with the United States from 1870 to the present. (Cross-listed with HIUS 108B.)

Course Objective

The objective of this course is to develop critical thinking skills and apply them to the discussion of Native American issues. The foundation of the course is built upon the concepts of exchange and discussion. The students are required to be actively engaged in the texts (books and films) to promote a discussion of how Native histories are understood in a larger national narrative. The focus of this course is not for the regurgitation of facts, but rather, the development of your analytic abilities to challenge assumptions and perceptions that are taken as “evidence” and “reality” when discussing race.

Required Texts

Like a Loaded Weapon: The Rehnquist Court, Indian Rights, and the Legal History of Racism in America by Robert A. Williams, Jr.

Course reader or e-reserve

Recommended: *The Plains Sioux and U.S. Colonialism from Lewis and Clark to Wounded Knee* by Jeffrey Ostler

Course Requirements

- Active participation/learning: This course, as stated earlier, will be organized on a lecture-discussion basis. We will be dealing with very difficult material and the success of the course depends on your active participation and attendance.
- Critical Essay (4 pages)
- Midterm Exam-short essay (take home)
- Final Exam (paper)

Grading

In order to pass this course all requirements must be met. Any missed assignment will result in a failing grade, and this includes attendance and participation. Late work will

not be accepted. You must turn in all your assignments on time to pass the course. Regardless of whether or not you are taking this course for a grade or P/NP, you must turn in all assignments and receive at least 70%. Grades will be calculated as such:

Participation/Attendance: 50% (Quality, not Quantity. In other words, participation is not calculated by how many times you speak in class, but rather what your analysis contributes to the conversation. Students must show engagement with the material)

Critical Essay: 15%

Midterm: 15%

Final: 20%

Policies

- Always bring the text(s) with which we are currently working from to class.
- All readings must be completed before class.
- Make sure to come to class prepared to discuss the readings and film and how they relate to the goals of the course.
- All written work must be typed in 12 pt., Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins.
- For proper paper format and citation guidelines, please refer to an MLA stylebook.
- Paginate all work and staple all work in the upper left-hand corner.
- Proof read all your work before turning in your assignments.
- All assignments must be turned into me in person.
- Make sure to turn off all phones and pagers during class.
- No online sources are permissible for work. Students are not allowed to use Wikipedia as a source. Only the readings are permissible sources.

Course Schedule (Subject to change)

Week 1 Introduction

July 2

- Introduction to class
- Film
- "Look, Mom, a Baby Maid!" The Languages of Racism-Robert Williams
- The Supreme Court and the Legal History of Racism in America-Robert Williams

July 4

No Class

Week 2 The Frontier, Nature, History, and Memory

July 9

- The Frontier Thesis-Frederick Jackson Turner
- Modes of Prophecy and Production: Placing Nature in History-William Cronon
- A Place for Stories: Nature, History, and Narrative-William Cronon
- Revisiting the Vanishing Frontier-William Cronon

- From Savage Space to Governable Space-Eric Olund
- Imagined Geographies-Thomas Biolsi

July 11

- Marxism and the Question of History-Robert Young
- Provisional Notes on the Postcolony-Achille Mbembe
- Invention, Memory, and Place-Edward Said
- Thresholds: Sovereignty and the Sacred-Nasser Hussain and Melissa Ptacek
- Indian Rights and the Marshall Court-Robert Williams

Week 3 Native Issues

July 16

- The United States v. Yellow Sun-James Riding In
- The Ideology of English Colonization-Nicholas Canny
- English Perceptions of Treachery-Karen Kupperman
- White Mythologies-Robert Young
- The Rise of Plenary Power-Robert Williams

July 18

- “The Savage as the Wolf”: The Founders’ Language of Indian Savagery-Robert Williams
- Presentment of Civility-Karen Kupperman
- American Indian Sovereignty-Peter d’Errico
- “Before the March of Civilization He Must Give Way”-Tomas Almaguer
- The Most Indianophobic Supreme Court Indian Law Opinion Ever-Robert Williams
- The Dangers of the Twentieth-Century Supreme Court's Indian Rights Decisions-Robert Williams

Midterm Essays Due In Class

Week 4 Laws, Wars, and Trials: War World II

July 23

- The “Public Indian” Goes to War, September 1939-December 1941-R. Scott Sheffield
- Nazi Propaganda Among American Indians-Kenneth Townsend
- The Movement Toward Termination-Kenneth Townsend
- “Wily” Indians-Richard Drinnon
- “Fomenter of Trouble”: Felix S. Cohen-Richard Drinnon
- What “Every American Schoolboy Knows”-Robert Williams

July 25

- Politics, Policy, and Panic-Stan Hoig
- Massacre at Sand Creek-Stan Hoig
- History and Interpretation of the Great Case of Johnson v. M’Intosh-Eric Kades

- The Dangers of the 20th Century Supreme Court's Indian Rights Decisions-Robert Williams, Jr.
- Rehnquist's Language of Racism in Oliphant-Robert Williams

Critical Essays due in Class

Week 5 Postcolonialism and Other Indigenous Models

July 30

- The Discovery Doctrine, Aboriginal Title, Tribal Sovereignty, and Their Significance to Treaty-Making in the United States-Michael Blumm
- Passions Out of Place: Law, Incommensurability, and Resistance-Peter Fitzpatrick
- The "Civilizing" of Indigenous People In 19th Century Canada-Mark Francis
- The Failure of 'Postcolonial' Sovereignty In Australia-Stewart Motha

August 1

- 'Postcolonizing' Amnesia in the Discourse of Reconciliation-Trish Luker
- Disappointing Indigenous People-Gillian Cowlishaw
- Consuming Geist: Popontology and the Spirit of Capital in Indigenous Australia----Elizabeth Povinelli
- Frontier Colonialism as a Culture of Terror-Barry Morris
- Tracing the Figure of the Native in Postcolonial Theory and Native Title Law-Judith Grbich

Final Due in Class