

Summer 2008

HIUS 108A/ETHN 112A
History of Native Americans: Pre-Contact to 1890

Instructor: Christian Gonzales

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This course examines the history of indigenous North Americans from the period immediately preceding the arrival of Europeans in America to the close of the nineteenth century. The course does not simply describe Anglo-American attitudes and beliefs about Natives, nor does it focus primarily on U.S. Indian policies. Rather, the course attempts to illuminate the various viewpoints from which both Indians and whites perceived their historical relations. Particular attention is given to Native beliefs and values, social and cultural ideologies, and cultural change prompted by contact with whites. The course's broadest goal is to provide a general knowledge of the Native American experience in the United States. In addition, it strives to reach a number of more specific goals. First, the course seeks to explain the various strategies that Indians followed in responding to the European conquest of America and the eventual establishment of Anglo-American social dominance. To this end the class will examine forms of Indian resistance, and aspects of Indian cultural continuity and change. Second, the class demonstrates that Indian history is not peripheral, but rather is central, to U.S. history. Finally, the course argues that neither Indians nor indigenous cultures are "disappearing."

Course Requirements: You will be responsible for a first draft of a 5-7 page paper, a revised draft of the same paper, a final exam, and 3 or 4 short (one half page) in class response papers.

Grading: The first paper draft will count for 20% of your grade, the final exam will count for 30%, the final paper will count for 45%, and the in class response papers will comprise 5% of your grade.

Required Books:

Daniel Richter, *Facing East From Indian Country*

Colin Galloway, *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*

Course Reader

Readings and Lectures:

Week 1 – Native Cultures and Economies on the Eve of Contact, and Early Contacts between Native Americans and Europeans

Reading: *Facing East From Indian Country*-Prologue, Chaps. 1-2, *First Peoples*-Chap 1, Reader-"The Indians' Old World: Native Americans and the Coming of Europeans" and *Captives and Cousins*

Lectures: Monday:

Lecture 1-Native Prehistory: Cultural beliefs.

Lecture 2-Pre-contact economies and social structures

Wednesday:

Lecture 1-Native Discovery of Europe: California Indians and Spain

Lecture 2-Native Discovery of Europe: Eastern Indians and the English

Week 2 – 17th and 18th Century Indian/Euro-American Relations

Reading: *Facing East From Indian Country*-Chaps. 3-4, *First Peoples*-Chap 2, Reader- *The Middle Ground* and “A Little Flesh We Offer You.”

Lectures: Monday:

Lecture 1-The Middle Ground

Lecture 2-Indians as slaveholders and slaves

Wednesday:

Lecture 1-Native/European Alliances

Lecture 2-Indians and Imperial North America

Week 3 – Indigenous Relations with Euro-Americans during the Revolutionary Era

Reading: *Facing East From Indian Country*-Chaps.5-6, *First Peoples*-Chap 3-4, Reader- *The American Revolution in Indian Country* and “Thinking and Believing.”

Lectures: Monday:

Lecture 1-Socio-Cultural Change in Indian Country

Lecture 2-Moses Paul and Indian Cultural Hybridity

Wednesday:

Lecture 1-Indians and Jeffersonian Assimilation

Lecture 2-Indians in the Revolutionary War

Week 4 – “Civilization” and Removal: Native Strategies towards U.S. Expansion 1800-1850

Reading: *First Peoples*, Chap 5, Reader- *How the Indians Lost Their Land* and *Violence over the Land*.

Lectures: Monday: **First Draft of Paper Due**

Lecture 1-U.S. Indian Policy in the Early Republic: assimilation and removal

Lecture 2-The Boudinot/Gold Marriage: racial logic and assimilation

Wednesday:

Lecture 1-Anglo and Indian Positions for and against Removal: Ideologies and Economics

Lecture 2-The Antiremoval Movement

Week 5 – Native Strategies towards U.S. Expansion 1850-1890

Reading: Reader- *Becoming and Remaining a People*.

Lectures: Monday:

Lecture 1-From Removal to Containment

Lecture 2- Religion and Art during the Reservation Period

Wednesday:

Lecture 1-The Dawes Act of 1887

Lecture 2-After the Close of the Frontier

Saturday: **Final Exam 8am-11am**