

Course Syllabus
History 240.01
Native American History
Fall 2008

Instructor: Chris Riggs
Office Location: Spalding 303
Office Hours: 1:30-4:15 PM Mon and Wed
10:30-11:45 AM Tues
whenever you catch me in the office
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OVERVIEW

Catalog Description: "This course examines Native Americans' distinctive histories, cultures, and relations with non-Indian peoples and states. The course will include discussion of how the Native American past continues to influence Native and non-Native peoples in the present."

This course will survey the history of Native North Americans from ancient to recent times, but will emphasize events in what became the United States. We will touch on a variety of topics, including politics, diplomacy, and economics, as well as social/cultural topics such as religion, gender, and race. Particular attention will be paid to the interactions among American Indians, Europeans/Euro-Americans, and other non-Indians because of the enormous impact these interactions have had and continue to have on both indigenous and non-indigenous populations.

PURPOSE/GOALS

By the end of the course, you should have a basic understanding of Native American history. More generally, as a Social Science course, History 240 should help you to do at least some of the following:

- conduct social science research
- think analytically about social phenomena
- understand and apply social science theories, concepts, and categories
- read and analyze works dealing with social science issues
- write a clear, concise, and organized paper
- present ideas orally in a clear, concise, and organized fashion
- understand and evaluate evidence related to social issues
- demonstrate a knowledge of the history and theory of social thought
- demonstrate a knowledge of major historical periods and social trends
- demonstrate an understanding of various cultural perspectives
- comprehend the social origins and significance of the diversity of human behavior

A NOTE ON LANGUAGE

Terminology regarding the indigenous peoples of the Americas is often contested. The term "Indian" is generally considered a misnomer that developed because explorer Christopher Columbus mistaken

believed that his 1492 landfall had occurred in the East Indies instead of the Caribbean. The term "Native American" is useful but often produces confusion because it is also used to distinguish native-born Americans from immigrants. For the sake of convenience and because many people use and understand the terms "American Indian" and "Native American," I will use these terms interchangeably.

COURSE FORMAT

The course format will consist of lecture and discussion sessions, supplemented by audio-visual presentations (videos, etc.). Please note that in preparation for discussions, you may be asked to write answers to a series of questions and to turn in your answers to me at the end of the session.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

You are responsible for all material presented and discussed during all class sessions whether or not you are present. Also, attendance will be considered in regard to determining your participation grade (see below).

I request that you arrive to class on time and stay for the entire time; if you anticipate that you might be late or need to leave early, please let me know.

Please turn cell phone and pager ringers off or to vibrate. If you need to make or take a cell phone call during class, please step outside.

READINGS

Everyone will be asked to read the following.

Colin G. Calloway, *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*, **3rd edition** (2008).

Frank B. Linderman, *Pretty-Shield: Medicine Woman of the Crows* (1972).

Vine Deloria Jr., "Kinship with the World" (article on e-reserve).

Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 13, part 2, *Plains* (Washington: Smithsonian Institute, 2001), pp. 695-717. (Fred Voget's entry on Crow Indians.) Available via LC Library electronic reserve or LC Library Reference section.

Everyone will be asked to read ONE of the following books.

Horace Axtell and Margo Aragon, *A Little Bit of Wisdom: Conversations with a Nez Perce Elder* (1997/2000).

Virgil Wyaco, *A Zuni Life: A Pueblo Indian in Two Worlds* (1998).

Everyone will be asked to read ONE of the following:

Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 9, *Southwest* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1979), pp. 467-481. (Pre-1850 and post-1850 entries on Zuni Indians.) Available via LC Library electronic reserve or LC Library Reference section.

Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 12, *Plateau* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1998), pp. 420-437. (Deward Walker Jr.'s entry on Nez Perce Indians.) Available via LC Library electronic reserve or LC Library Reference section.

First Peoples, *Pretty Shield*, and *Zuni Life* are on reserve at the LCSC library and available through the LC bookstore and online booksellers.

Unfortunately, *Little Bit of Wisdom* is out of print and thus not available in the LC bookstore. However, it is on reserve in the LC Library, and it can be purchased via online booksellers.

Deloria's "Kinship with the World" and the *Handbook of North American Indians* entries are available via electronic reserve.

To access readings on electronic reserve, please go to this page: <http://eres.lcsc.edu/eres/>

Note that the password is "HIST240."

Then, click on "Electronic Reserves and Reserves Pages." Next click on "Course Reserves Pages by Instructor." Use the drop down menu to find my name. After that, click on "HIST-240." Then click on and download the reading(s) you are seeking.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade will be based on how many points you earn out of a possible 550. You earn points through the following: Participation (50 points), Exams (200 points), Short Papers (100 points), *Pretty Shield* Paper (100 points), and Paper on *A Little Bit of Wisdom* or *Zuni Life* (100 points).

Participation

Participation is valued at 50 points. Among other things, participation involves reading material to be discussed in class beforehand, active engagement in class discussions (listening and speaking), asking relevant questions, and good faith efforts to grapple with course material. Earning a high participation grade, of course, will require you to attend class regularly.

Actions during class which will cause you to lose participation points include (but are not limited to) sleeping or putting your head down on the desk, reading newspapers or magazines, doing other homework, leaving early without checking with the instructor beforehand, and talking while the instructor or another student or guest speaker is speaking. Such actions can be very disruptive and show disrespect toward other students and the instructor.

Exams

There will be a midterm and a final exam, each worth 100 points. The exams are designed to assess your knowledge of basic factual material as well as the ability to analyze that material. More information will be provided to you about the exams.

Short Papers

You will be asked to write three papers (one page minimum), based mainly on the readings. Each will be worth 50 points and should be typed, double-spaced, and in ten or twelve point font. You will have the option of not doing one of the papers or of dropping your lowest paper grade if you do all three. More details about the papers will be provided in a separate handout.

Pretty-Shield Paper

You will be asked to write a paper (two pages minimum) on *Pretty Shield*. The paper will be worth 100 points. More details will be provided in a separate handout.

Paper on A Little Bit of Wisdom or Zuni Life

You will be asked to write a paper (two pages minimum) on either *Little Bit of Wisdom* **or** *Zuni Life*. It will be worth 100 points. More details will be provided in a separate handout.

Late Penalty

Papers should be turned in no later than 5:00 PM on the due date. Those submitted after the deadline may be subject to a point penalty. For every day that an assignment is late, one-half of a letter grade will be deducted from the score. Papers may be submitted by e-mail, but those who do so are responsible for insuring that the paper reaches me by the deadline. If an e-mailed paper does not reach me by the deadline, it will still be subject to the late paper penalty.

Extra Credit

Students may earn up to ten extra credit points. Those interested in doing so should please consult with the professor before proceeding.

GRADING

I will grade using the following scale:

93-100% = A	90-92 = A-	
88-89% = B+	83-87 = B	80-82 = B-
78-79% = C+	73-77 = C	70-72 = C-
68-69% = D+	63-67 = D	60-62 = D-
59% and below = F		

MAKE UP EXAMS

I will permit make up exams only under special circumstances. Please let me know as soon as possible (preferably before the exam) so that a make up can be arranged.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Class policy is the same as that of the college. As explained in the LCSC Student Handbook: Code of Conduct: <<http://www.lcsc.edu/student-services/SHBcodeofconduct.htm>>

Cheating or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable. The College functions to promote the cognitive and psychosocial development of all students. Therefore, all work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts and current understanding. Academic Dishonesty includes:

a) Cheating—intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term "academic exercise" includes all forms of work submitted for credit hours.

- b) Fabrication—intentional and/or unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or the source of any information in an academic exercise.
- c) Collusion facilitating academic dishonesty—intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of Academic Dishonesty.
- d) Plagiarism—the deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas or words or statement of another person as one’s own without acknowledgment.

As a rule of thumb, if you use three or more of same words in the same order as your source, you should put the words into quotations. Remember that citations are required not only when you use the same words as your source, but whenever you use information and ideas that are not your own. The main exceptions are those things considered “common knowledge” (such as Franklin Roosevelt was elected U.S. president in 1932).

Anyone found in any of the above activities or related activities will be subject to penalty. Such penalty may include failing a particular assignment, failing the course, and/or additional sanctions imposed by the college.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with a documented need for special accommodations should please consult with as soon as possible.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Below is a tentative schedule (with the emphasis on tentative!) of the topics we will address in class. I have included are the due dates for the paper as well as the dates for the midterm exam and the final exam.

I urge that you read the selections prior to class, as research and my own experience have found that reading before class helps improve learning and retention.

Abbreviations: FP = *First Peoples*

Week of Aug 25
Introduction
Readings: FP, 1-36

Week of Sep 1
Native North Americans Overview
Readings: FP, 37-62; Deloria, “Kinship with the World” (e-reserve)

SEPT 1: NO CLASS

Week of Sept 8
Pueblo Peoples and Spaniards
Readings: FP, 76-92, 117-119

Week of Sept 15
Eastern American Indians and the French
Readings: FP, 92-98, 119-130

SEPT 17: FIRST SHORT PAPER DUE

Week of Sept 22
Eastern American Indians and the English
Readings: FP, 98-107, 121-136

Week of Sept 29
Iroquois and the Origins of the United States
Readings: FP, 154-182, 185-197

Week of Oct 6
Revitalization Movements
Readings: FP, 218-229

OCT 8: 1ST EXAM

Week of Oct 13
Cherokees, Tribal Sovereignty, and American Indian Removal
Readings: FP, 228-243

OCT 22: 2ND SHORT PAPER DUE

Week of Oct 20
Native Peoples and the Indian Wars in the Trans-Mississippi West
Readings: FP, 290-316, 344-363

OCT 29: *PRETTY-SHIELD* PAPER DUE

Week of Oct 27
Allotment and Assimilation
Readings: FP, 372-394, 413-425

Oct 31: Last Day to Withdraw from Class(es)

Week of Nov 3
American Indian Survival and Revival
Readings: FP, 394-403, 438-445, 473-483

NOV 12: 3RD SHORT PAPER DUE

Week of Nov 10
War, Termination, and Relocation
Readings: FP, 445-455, 483-489

Week of Nov 17
The Rise of Self-Determination and Red Power
Readings: FP, 455-472, 490-500

Week of NOV 24: NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)

Week of Dec 1

Contemporary Indian Issues

Readings: FP, 520-560

DEC 10: PAPER ON ZUNI LIFE OR LITTLE BIT OF WISDOM DUE

DEC 10: EXTRA CREDIT WORK DUE

Week of Dec 8

Catch Up and Review

Readings: Whatever you need to finish

FINAL EXAM: MON, DEC 15