

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, SIUE

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 Office Hours: Tues. 1:30 – 3:00 pm and Wed. 3:30 – 5:00 pm, or by appointment

ANTH 312 – CONTEMPORARY NATIVE AMERICANS – SPRING 2012
ROOM 0405 PECK HALL – WEDNESDAYS 6:00 – 8:45 PM

COURSE CONTENT:

This course examines the history behind and issues surrounding contemporary Native North American peoples and the ways in which they attempt to meet these challenges. The first section of the course introduces the theoretical framework and concepts of the course: infrastructure (economy and environment), structure (social and political), superstructure (belief and ideology) and master narratives. The remaining three sections focus on key issues in these areas by analyzing the master narratives characteristic of each. Specifically, infrastructure: “Loss of Land”; structure: “Disintegration of Family”; and superstructure: “Spiritual Revitalization.” Through analysis of feature length films, Native authored works, and documentaries, students will gain insight into the common threads and variations in Native American experiences today.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To impart basic knowledge about the reasons for, and the extent of, the challenges facing America’s First Peoples, as well as the ways in which they are addressing them today.
- 2) To develop skills in reading comprehension, critical thinking, and written communication.
- 3) To develop skills in cultural and social science analysis of feature length films.
- 4) To facilitate an awareness of stereotypes and sensitivity towards issues of cultural appropriation in order to foster greater cross-cultural understanding.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

#1) 10%	50 pts.	Essay on <i>Thunderheart</i> (4-5 page essay) Due 2/29
#2) 10%	50 pts.	Powwow fieldwork (Raw data and 2-3 page essay) Due 4/11
#3) 15%	75 pts.	Textbook Homework (15 readings at 1% each)
#4) 30%	150 pts.	Two Midterm Exams (30 MC questions each, @ 2.5 pts. each)
#5) 25%	125 pts.	Final Exam (40 MC questions @ 2.5 each; 10 cumulative).
#6) 10%	50 pts.	Participation (attendance, preparedness, attention and engagement)
#7) Bonus	25pts.	10 for assignment submission format; 10 for FTC photo; 5 to be announced depending on circumstances
Total: 105%	525 pts.	Final grade out of 100.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- 1) “CNACI” – Champagne, Duane, ed. 1999. *Contemporary Native American Cultural Issues*. Walnut Creek, CA: Alta Mira Press.
- 2) “Wild Horse” – Skolnick, Sharon, and Manny Skolnick. 1997. *Where Courage is Like a Wild Horse*. Lincoln, NB: University of Nebraska Press.
- 3) “Ghost Dance” Kehoe, Alice Beck. 2006. *Ghost Dance: Ethnohistory and Revitalization, 2nd Edition*. Long Grove IL: Waveland Press.

COURSE FORMAT and EXPECTATIONS:

The course will employ a combination of lectures, class discussions and small-group exercises. Students are expected to: 1) **read the syllabus in full** and consult it regularly for directions on scheduling, readings, assignments and policies; 2) **come prepared to class** by having read the assigned readings (always bring the assigned reading to class even if you haven't read it) and/or by bringing a print out of the day's lecture on which to take notes; 3) **take notes during class** on lectures and discussions; and 4) **regularly utilize the resources provided on Blackboard.**

Success in the course depends upon meeting these expectations - failure to do so will result in inadequate preparation for assignments and exams, and hence lower grades. Moreover, these are the criteria upon which your participation grade will be determined. **You will be tested on ALL of the assigned readings and videos.**

Blackboard:

This course is supplemented with Blackboard. In order to log-on, click on "Blackboard" under the "Current Students" tab of the SIUE homepage. Enter your SIUE UserID and password (the same as for your e-mail), then select ANTH 312.

- All lectures are posted on the site under "Lectures." Print them, bring them to class and write your class notes directly on them. You will be tested on what I say about each slide, not just what each slide says!
- **Check announcements at least once a week!**
- Grades will be posted on this site as soon as they are available. You can access your own grades at any time.
- Weekly Textbook Homework quizzes will be found under "Homework." These will be posted up until class time each week, and NOT afterwards! Save and/or print them BEFORE you submit your responses in order to retain all possible answers.
- *Portfolio* project resources can be found under "Assignments." These include sample images in "Gallery," and links to relevant internet sites.

POLICIES:

Grading:

The evaluative scale to be used in this course is as follows:

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 0 - 59 = F

A = excellent; B = good to very good; C = satisfactory; D = less than satisfactory; F = failing.

Enrolment:

Students who fail to come to the first class will lose their place in this section of the course.

Assignments:

- See the Assignments handout for general instructions on assignment submission and grading, as well as the requirements needed to receive the 10 bonus points available for assignment submission format.
- **Students must keep electronic copies (on hard drive and/or jump drive) of all submitted assignments, and graded work, until the end of the exam period.**
- **All assignments must be submitted in hard copy and electronic format as email attachments in Word '03 or '07.**

Late Assignments:

Except under exceptional circumstances, assignments submitted after the due date will be docked 5 points per day late (from the date I receive it, including weekends). Please send it to me as an **e-mail attachment** to document the time at which you submitted it. **Do not slip assignments under my office door!** Appeals for extensions must be requested **before** the scheduled class time of the due date of the assignment. There will be no bonus points available for late assignments.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic misconduct, including plagiarism and cheating, is described on p. 1 of the SIUE Student Academic Code. Academic Misconduct on an assignment, paper, test or exam will result in an F in the course. Please also familiarize yourself with the University policy on penalties outlined in the Code. The Faculty reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

Classroom Behavior:

- 1) Turn cell phone ringers OFF before entering class.
- 2) Arrive on time. Do not leave before the end of class without prior permission.
- 3) Do not hold private conversations (either oral or written). Do not speak during lectures unless called upon; listen and speak respectfully to your fellow students.
- 4) Do not read extraneous materials during lectures, INCLUDING TEXTING.
- 5) Do not fall asleep in class.

Failure to obey the above rules will result in deductions from your participation grade.

Disability Support Services:

Students with disabilities are welcome in this course. Academic accommodations you may require must be arranged through the SIUE Disability Support Services office in Room 1218 Rendleman Hall (650-3726) and brought to my attention at the beginning of the term.

Contacting me:

I welcome all your comments and questions via telephone, e-mail and in person during my office hours or by appointment at (almost) any time. Please do not assume that I have received your message(s) unless you receive a reply. I am most easily reached via email or text.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week	Date	Theme	Activities	Readings	Assignments
		PART ONE	Story 1: Loss of Land (Infrastructure)		
One	1/11	Introduction to Framework	Lecture: Cultural Materialism and Narrative Theory <i>Film: Reel Injuns</i>	BB: LaDuke: "Buffalo Nations"	TH#1
Two	1/18	Loss of Land: Historical Background	Lecture: Land Loss from Treaties to Relocation	CNACI Chapter 15: "Ecological Risk Management"	TH#2

Three	1/25	Introduction to the Black Hills	Lecture: The Ghost Dance Religion <i>Film: Incident at Oglala</i>	Kehoe: Ch.6	TH#3
Four	2/1	Wounded Knee	<i>Film: Lakota Woman: Siege at Wounded Knee</i>	Kehoe: Ch.7	TH#4
Five	2/8	Resource Exploitation	<i>Film: Skinwalkers</i>	CNACI Chapter 16: "Uranium is in My Body"	TH#5
		PART TWO	Story 2: Disintegration of Family (Structure)		
Six	2/15	Introduction to Issues: Identity	Term Test 1 (15%) <i>Video: In Whose Honor?: American Indian Mascots in Sports</i> Lecture: Native Identity Issues	CNACI Chapter 1: "American Indian Identities"	Term Test 1 (15%) TH#6
Seven	2/22	Kinship	Lecture: Traditional Social and Political Structures	CNACI Chapter 5: "Contemporary Tribal Codes and Gender Issues"	TH#7
Eight	2/29	Alcoholism and Family	<i>Film: Smoke Signals</i>	CNACI Chapter 11: "The Epidemiology of Alcohol Abuse..."	Film Essay (15%) TH#8
SPRING BREAK!					
Nine	3/7	Family Alienations	Lecture: Disintegration of Family: Facts and Fiction	Skolnick: "Wild Horse" pp. ix-79	TH#9
Ten	3/14	Residential Schools	<i>Video: Sleeping Children Awake</i> Lecture: Powwow 101	Skolnick: "Wild Horse" pp. 80-148	TH#10
		PART THREE	Story 3: Spiritual Revitalization (Infrastructure)		
Eleven	3/21	Introduction to Spiritual Revitalization	Term Test 2 (15%) YouTube clips: Powwow Lecture: Christianity, Syncreticity, and Spiritual Revitalization	CNACI Chapter 6: "The Powwow as a Public Arena..."	Term Test 2 (15%) TH#11
Twelve	3/28	<u>Multimedia presentation by Dr. Lani Van Eck</u>	<u>Guest Presentation: The Massacre at Wounded Knee (class meets at MUC, Maple/Dogwood Room)</u>	CNACI Chapter 7: "...the Gourd Dance..."	TH#12
	3/31				
Thirteen	4/4	Native Media and Art	Lecture: Contemporary Native Art <i>Video: Honey Moccasin</i>	CNACI Chapter 9: "Native Media's Communities"	TH#13
Fourteen	4/11	Contemporary Literature	<i>Film: Dance Me Outside</i>	CNACI Chapter 4: "The Good Red Road..."	Powwow Essay (10%) TH#14
Fifteen	4/25	Tourism and Tourist Art	Lecture: Cultural Tourism and Spiritual Revitalization	BB: Piner: "Beyond the Casino"	TH#15
FINAL	5/2		EXAM: 6:30 – 8:10 pm		