

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, SIUE

Dr. Cory Willmott; Peck Hall 0407A
 650-2748; E-mail: cwillmo@siue.edu; Text: 618-407-2313
 Office Hours: Wed. 3:30 – 5:00 pm and Thurs. 1:30 – 3:00 pm, or by appointment

ANTH 312 – Contemporary Native Americans – Spring 2014
Room 0314 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 fieldwork methods.
- 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 3/5
#2) 10%	50 pts.	Powwow fieldwork (Raw data and 2-3 page essay) Due 4/4
#3) 15%	75 pts.	Textbook Homework (15 readings at 1% each)
#4) 30%	150 pts.	Two Term Tests (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, engagement and exercises)
#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 and seminar format class discussions. Students are expected to:

- 1) **be able to conduct independent research;**
- 2) **read the syllabus in full** and consult it regularly for directions on scheduling, readings, assignments and policies;
- 3) **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;
- 4) **take notes during class** on lectures and discussions; and
- 5) **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.

Blackboard Resources:

- **Announcements:** All important information will be posted on the "Announcement" page of this site. All email messages will be sent through this site. **Check announcements and messages at least once a week!**

- **Grades** will be posted on this site as soon as they are available. You can access your own grades through My Grades at any time.

Weekly folders under the "Coursework" button:

- **Lectures:** All powerpoints will be posted in the weekly folders.

- **Textbook Homework (TH)**, which is worth 15% of your grade, is posted on Blackboard. You must complete these quizzes online *before the class for which they are assigned* in order to receive points.

- **Self-study quizzes** will be posted in the weekly folders as aids to studying for the tests and exams. These are valuable study tools that you should make use of!

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.

Late Assignments:

Except under exceptional circumstances, assignments submitted after the due date will be docked 20% no matter how many days late. There will be no makeup exams. **Do not slip assignments under my office door! Late assignments should be submitted online only.**

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic misconduct, including plagiarism and cheating, is described on p. 1 of the SIUE Student Academic Code (3c2). 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 by following the link on "plagiarism." 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 text). Do not speak during lectures unless called upon; listen and speak respectfully to your fellow students.
- 4) Do not read extraneous materials during lectures.
- 5) Do not fall asleep in class.
- 6) Food and drinks are forbidden in the classrooms according to SIUE policy.

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 MUC (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, text message and in person during my office hours or by appointment at (almost) any time. I cannot ensure my full or lasting attention to queries in conversations before or after class. Email and text are the best ways to contact me; that is, the most likely ways to reach me, have my full attention and make sure I get your appointment in my calendar! Please do not assume that I have received your message(s) unless you receive a reply.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week	Date	Theme	Activities	Readings	Assignments
		PART ONE	Story 1: Loss of Land (Infrastructure)		
One	1/15	Introduction to Framework	Lecture: Foundational Concepts Lecture: Activists and Actors	BB: LaDuke: "Buffalo Nations"	TH#1
Two	1/22	Loss of Land: Historical Background	Lecture: Loss of Land <i>Film: Reel Injuns</i>	CNACI Chapter 14: "Friendly Fire"	TH#2
Three	1/29	Introduction to the Black Hills	Lecture: Ghost Dance <i>Film: Incident at Oglala</i>	Kehoe: Ch.6	TH#3
Four	2/5	Wounded Knee	<i>Film: Lakota Woman: Siege at Wounded Knee</i>	Kehoe: Ch.7	TH#4
Five	2/12	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	2/19	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	2/26	Kinship	Lecture: Ojibwe Kinship	CNACI Chapter 5: “Contemporary Tribal Codes and Gender Issues”	TH#7
Eight	3/5	Alcoholism and Family	<i>Film: Smoke Signals</i>	CNACI Chapter 11: “The Epidemiology of Alcohol Abuse...”	Film Essay (15%) TH#8
SPRING BREAK!					
Nine	3/19	Family Alienations	Lecture: Disintegration of Family: Parts 1 & 2	Skolnick: “Wild Horse” pp. ix-79	TH#9
Ten	3/26	Residential Schools	<i>Video: Sleeping Children Awake</i> <i>Video: Where Are the Children?</i>	Skolnick: “Wild Horse” pp. 80-148	TH#10
		PART THREE	Story 3: Spiritual Revitalization (Infrastructure)		
Eleven	4/2	Introduction to Spiritual Revitalization	Term Test 2 (15%) Lecture: Spiritual Revitalization <i>Video: Native American Dance</i> Lecture: Powwow 101	CNACI Chapter 6: “The Powwow as a Public Arena...”	Term Test 2 (15%) TH#11
	4/5	Saturday	POWWOW!	Wash U.	
Twelve	4/9	Native Music	Lecture: Contemporary Native Music (sound clips and notes; YouTube videos)	CNACI Chapter 7: “...the Gourd Dance...”	TH#12
Thirteen	4/4	Native Media and Art	Lecture: Art as Activism <i>Video: Honey Moccasin</i>	CNACI Chapter 9: “Native Media’s Communities”	TH#13 Powwow Essay (10%)
Fourteen	4/11	Contemporary Literature	<i>Film: Dance Me Outside</i>	CNACI Chapter 4: “The Good Red Road...”	TH#14
Fifteen	4/25	Tourism and Tourist Art	Lecture: Economic Development	BB: Piner: “Beyond the Casino”	TH#15
FINAL	5/7	Wednesday	EXAM: 6:30 – 8:10 pm		FINAL