

History 218
Garceau
T, Th, 1-2:30pm
Buckman 105

Dee

Clough 301, X-3290
Ofc Hrs: MW, 2-4pm

**“THESE PEOPLE FROM THE UNKNOWN WORLD”:
NATIVE AMERICA AND AMERICAN HISTORY**

Course Description

This course provides an in-depth look at selected Native American cultures, inter-tribal relations, and relations with EuroAmericans in North America. The evolution of United States Indian policy, as well as key shifts in Native American strategies for survival form the chronological framework for the course. Recent scholarship will shed light on the issues of tribal sovereignty, conquest, and cultural brokerage. Through Native American oral histories, written memoirs, and fiction, we will explore the concepts of syncretism, cultural persistence, and bicultural identity.

Course Structure

Class time will blend lecture and discussion. Lectures will provide information that is not covered by the reading. However, most of our time will be spent in discussion of the assigned readings. Periodically, class time will also include student presentations and hands-on workshops.

When reading, jot down notes. You will create a valuable record of ideas, evidence, and questions which you can draw from during discussion. On days marked "Discussion," consider it a standing assignment to come prepared; that is, having done the reading listed for that day. Good discussion depends upon your preparation.

Think of history as an interpretive art. The story will change, depending upon what questions we ask, and what evidence we call forth. Our job will be to weigh differing arguments; to determine why they do or do not convince us; and to arrive at our own conclusions.

Required Texts

Michael Green & Theda Purdue, The Cherokee Removal; A Brief History with Documents (St. Martin's Press, 1995).

James Welch, Fools Crow (Penguin Books, 1986).

Peggy Albright, Crow Indian Photographer: The Work of Richard Throssel (University of New Mexico Press,

D'Arcy McNickle, The Surrounded (University of New Mexico Press, 1990).

Course Packet Available at the History department Office. Includes recent scholarship in Native American History.

Course Requirements

- 1) Consistent attendance and participation. Class participation counts substantially in your grade. Over two absences will lower your average by one grade.
- 2) Completion of assigned work, on time. Late papers will be averaged a grade lower than their content. The same holds for exams missed without a verifiable medical reason.
- 3) All work, unless otherwise indicated, is assumed to be pledged under the Honor Code.

Written Assignments

- 1) A **7-8 page take-home essay exam** on early contact between Native American and European cultures, addressing questions of adaptation, cultural brokerage, and conquest.
- 2) A **7-8 page take-home essay exam** on the Cherokee Nation, addressing questions of sovereignty, assimilation, and syncretism.
- 3) A **5-6 page interpretive essay** on the novel, Fools Crow or The Surrounded.
- 4) An **in-class final exam**, consisting of two essays, one addressing tribalism within industrial capitalist society; and one addressing contemporary issues in reservation life.

COURSE OUTLINE

Th Jan 14 Introduction to the Course
Workshop on Cross-Cultural Perceptions

T Jan 19 Discussion
Cosmologies and Stereotypes: Indian and European

Reading: James Wilson, "This is How It Was: Two Views of

Robert Berkhofer, "The Idea of the Indian: Invention and Perpetuation," pp.3-22.

Rayna Green, "The Pochahontas Perplex: The Image of

Th Jan 21 Slide Lecture
Native America in Art and Literature: Images From the Euro-American Imagination

T Jan 26 Student Presentations
Discussion of Ethnographies

Th Jan 28 Discussion
Spiritual Dimensions of Early Contact

Reading: Kenneth Morrison, "Montagnais Missionization in

Father Paul LeJeune, "Encounter with the Indians,"

James Ronda, "We Are Well As We Are': An Indian

T Feb 2 Lecture/Discussion

Algonquians and English Immigrants: Gender, Diplomacy, and

Conqu

Reading: Kathleen Brown, "The Anglo-Algonquian Gender

Hugh Henry Brackenridge, "The Indians Have No

Rev. Heckewelder, "Indians and Nature," pp.57-59.

Th Feb 4 Discussion

Social and Political Adaptations to Early Contact

Reading: James Merrell, "The Indians' New World: The
Catawba Experience," pp.65-81.

Karen Anderson, "Commodity Exchange and

T Feb 9 Lecture/Discussion

The Northern Fur Trade

Reading: Arthur Ray, "The Fur Trade as an Aspect of Native
American History," pp.147-55.

Sylvia Van Kirk, "The Role of Native American

"Edmond Atkin Reveals the Reasons for French

Saukamappee, "Memories of War and Smallpox"
(1788), pp.43-7.

Th Feb 11 Lecture

The Seneca Nation and the American Revolution

Reading: Anthony Wallace, "The Seneca Nation of Indians,"
pp.35-50.

Anthony Wallace, "The Importance of Love and

****FIRST ESSAY ASSIGNMENT HANDED OUT****

T Feb 16 Lecture/Discussion

The Covenant Chain and the American Revolution

Reading: "Treaty of Fort Stanwix," (1784), pp.165-66.

"Ordinance for the Regulation and Management of

"Northwest Ordinance" (1787), pp.168-69.

Francis Jennings, "The Indians' Revolution,"
pp.171-84.

Colin Calloway, "We Have Always Been the Frontier':
The American Revolution in Shawnee Country,"
pp.39-52.

Th Feb 18 Discussion

Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw Economics on the Early

Reading: Daniel Usner, "American Indians on the Cotton

****FIRST ESSAY DUE****

T Feb 23 Lecture

Emergence of United States Removal Policy: The Case of the

Reading: Theda Purdue & Michael Green, The Cherokee

Documents, "Cherokee Civilization," The Cherokee
Removal, pp.24-57.

Th Feb 25 Discussion

The Paradoxes of a 'Civilized Tribe'

Reading: Theda Purdue, "Women, Men, and American

William McLoughlin, "An Alternative Missionary

Michael Coleman, "American Indian School Pupils as
Cultural Brokers," pp.122-35.

T March 2 Discussion

Tribal Factionalism and Congressional Debate

Reading: Purdue & Green, The Cherokee Removal,
"The Cherokee Debate," pp.121-75.

****2ND ESSAY ASSIGNMENT HANDED OUT****

Th March 4 Discussion
Plains Ecology and Plains Diplomacy

Reading: Richard White, "The Winning of the West: The
Dan Flores, "Bison Ecology and Bison Diplomacy: The
Colin Calloway, "The Intertribal Balance of Power on
Lone Dog's Winter Count (1800-1871), pp.31-35.

March 6-14 **SPRING BREAK: Begin reading Fools Crow.**

T March 16 Workshop
The Uses of Metaphor in Diplomacy

Reading: Raymond DeMallie, "Touching the Pen: Plains
Treaty of Fort Laramie (1851), pp.238-41.

****SECOND ESSAY DUE****

Th March 18 Lecture
Grant's Peace Policy, Plains Warfare, and Assimilation Dreams:

Reading: "Account of Sand Creek," pp.102-03.

Little Bear, "The Sand Creek Massacre" (1864), p.104.

Bear Head, "Account of the Massacre on the Marias"
(1870), pp.105-110.

****This weekend, finish reading Fools Crow.**

- T March 23 Discussion
The Blackfeet on the Nineteenth-Century Northern Plains

Reading: James Welch, Fools Crow.
- Th March 25 Discussion
Cross-Gender Identities

Reading: Beverly Hungry Wolf, "Running Eagle," and "The
Will Roscoe, "'That Is My Road': The Life and Times
Evelyn Blackwood, "Sexuality and Gender in Certain
- T March 30 Discussion
Reservation Life in the Early Twentieth Century

Reading: Peter Iverson, "When Indians Became Cowboys,"
Jill Martin, "Neither Fish, Flesh, Fowl, nor Good Red
- April 1-4 **EASTER BREAK: Begin Albright, Crow Photographer.**
- T April 6 Discussion
Cultural Mediation and Tribal Survival: A Crow Photographer's
Story

Reading: Peggy Albright, Crow Indian Photographer: The
- Th April 8 Lecture/ Discussion
The Indian New Deal

Reading: "Lewis Meriam Summarizes the Problems Facing
"The Indian ReOrganization Act [Wheeler-Howard
Veronica Tiller, "The New Deal and the Jicarilla
Apaches, 1930s," pp.444-54.

T April 13 Discussion
Cultural Loss & Cultural Persistence Among the Salish-Kootenai

Reading: Darcy McNickle, The Surrounded.

Th April 15 Discussion
Termination, Alcatraz, and the American Indian Movement

Reading: Donald Fixico, "The Relocation and Urbanization

Judith Antell, "The Occupation of Alcatraz Island,

"A Proclamation for Indians of All Tribes, Alcatraz

"Ada Deer [Menominee] Explains How Her People

T April 20 Discussion
Cultural Revitalization in Contemporary America

Reading: William Farr, "Troubled Bundles, Troubled

Th April 22 Discussion
Contemporary Syncretism and Tribal Politics

Reading: Fergus Bordewich, "A Scene Most Resembling

Bordewich, "Our Lives Have Been Transmuted,

T April 27 Discussion
Contemporary Mixed-Blood Identity and Culture

Film: "Medicine Fiddle"

Th April 29 Discussion
Synthesis and Reflection

****STUDY QUESTIONS FOR EXAM HANDED OUT****

Sat May 8 Final Essay Exam: 1-3:30pm
Bring Two Blue Books to Class.