

**Spring Quarter 2007**

**ETHN 112A/HIUS108A  
History of Native Americans: Pre-Contact to 1890**

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Office Hours: Mon. 2 – 3:30 pm and Wednesday, 2 – 3:30 pm

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 three 5-7 page papers during the quarter.

**Grading:** The first two papers will each count for 30% of your grade, and the final paper will count for the remaining 40% of your grade.

**Required Books:**

Daniel Richter, *Facing East From Indian Country*

Howard Harrod, *Becoming and Remaining a People: Native American Religions on the Northern Plains*

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

Reading: Red Earth White Lies-Introduction, Chap. 1-2, First Peoples-Chap. 1

Lectures: Monday-Native Prehistory: Western Perceptions and Beliefs

Wednesday-Native Origin Accounts

Friday-Pre-contact economics, societies, and cultures

Week 2 – Early Contacts between Europeans and Native Americans-Spain, France, and England: East Coast, Gulf Coast, and California

Reading: Facing East From Indian Country-Prologue, Chap. 1-2, Reader: Selections from *Indians and English*, *Cultivating a Landscape of Peace*, *Choctaw Genesis*

Lectures: Monday-Spanish relations with Southeastern Indians

Wednesday-Early 17<sup>th</sup> century Epidemics and the Native Reaction to the colonization of the Chesapeake and New England

Friday-California Indians and Spain

Week 3 – 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Native-Euro-American relations in Virginia, New England, Ohio Valley, and Canada

Reading: Facing East From Indian Country-Chap. 3-4, The Middle Ground-Chap. 2-3

Lectures: Monday-Indians, Africans and Slavery

Wednesday-Indians and Christians: Praying Towns, Jesuits, and Acculturation

Friday-The Fur Trade

Week 4 – Native Responses to European Empire Building

Reading: Facing East From Indian Country-Chap.5-6, The Middle Ground-Chap. 4,6,8, Reader-Selection from *Elusive Empires*.

Lectures: Monday-Socio-Cultural Change in Indian Country

Wednesday-Native/European Alliances

Friday-The Seven Years' War

Week 5 – Indigenous Relations with the United States during the Revolutionary Era

Reading: First Peoples-Chap. 3, Reader-Selections from *The Revolution in Indian Country, Dividing Paths*.

Lectures: Monday-Indian Preachers and Attempts at Neutrality

Wednesday-Iroquois/British Alliance

Friday-The Revolutionary War in Indian Country: South Carolina and The Cherokee

Week 6 – Indians and Jeffersonian Assimilation

Readings: First Peoples-Chap. 4, Reader-Selections from *Cherokees and Missionaries, From Revivals to Removal*,

Lectures: Monday-U.S. Indian Policy in the Early Republic

Wednesday-Native relations with Missionaries in Indian Country

Friday-Who Could be an American?: Racial Logic and Assimilation

Week 7 – “Civilization,” Removal, and Westward Expansion

Reading: Reader-*Fathers and Children, The Legal Ideology of Removal, The New Order of Things*

Lectures: Monday-New England Indians and the Experiment at Brotherton

Wednesday-The Ideology and Economics Behind Removal and Expansion

Friday-5 Civilized Tribes: Cherokee, Creek, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Seminole: Native positions for and against Removal

Week 8 – Native Strategies towards U.S. Expansion 1800-1850: Accommodation, Resistance, and Cultural Continuity

Reading: Reader-Wallace Article, Selections from *A Spirited Resistance, The Land of the Dead*

Lectures: Monday-Indian Strategies: Nativism, Religion, and Indian Alliances

Wednesday-The Midewiwin as Resistance and Cultural Continuity

Friday-A New Life in Indian Country: Cultural and Racial Logic of the Cherokees and Choctaws in Oklahoma

Week 9 – Native Strategies towards U.S. Expansion 1850-1890

Reading: First Peoples-Chap. 5

Lectures: Monday-U.S. Indian Policy: Containment, Reservations, and Grant's Peace Policy

Wednesday-Indian Women and Cultural Continuity and Adaptation

Friday- Indians at School: Native Responses to the Boarding School

Week 10 – Indigenous Responses to Life during the Reservation Period

Reading: Reader-Selections from *Silver Horn, The Ghost Dance*

Lectures: Monday-The Dawes Act of 1887, Darwinism and Social Evolution

Wednesday-Religion and Art: The Sun Dance, The Ghost Dance, Peyote, Teepee Paintings, and Ledger Art

Friday-The End of Indian Military Resistance and Concluding Remarks