

History 490: Introduction to American Indian History
[Cross-listed as American Indian Studies 490]

Professor Ned Blackhawk

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Course Description:

Ignored for generations, American Indian history has recently become one of the most exciting and prolific fields of historical inquiry. As scholars now recognize, Indian peoples have fundamentally shaped and defined our nation's past. From the founding of the first European settlements in North America to continuing debates over the meaning of American democracy, Indian history remains integral to understandings of American history and culture. This course introduces this complex and long ignored field of study.

Course Readings:

Six primary texts are required for this course. We will read these texts in conjunction with additional chapters and articles from a course reader available at the Humanities Copy Center. These additional readings are central to the class. The required and recommended texts and the reader are available also on reserve at College Library.

Books: (Available at Underground Textbook Exchange)

Required:

- Colin Calloway, ed., *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*, 2nd Ed.
- Matthew Dennis, *Cultivating a Landscape of Peace: Iroquois-European Encounters in Seventeenth-Century America*
- Patty Loew, *Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal*
- Charles Wilkinson, *Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations*
- Vine Deloria, Jr., *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto*
- Sherman Alexie, *Ten Little Indians*

Course Requirements:

Students are responsible for all materials covered in lecture and in the readings. The final course grade will be determined as follows.

1)	Midterm Exam	(25%)
2)	Section Participation and Attendance	(10%)
3)	Short Paper (3 pages)	(15%)
4)	Individual Book Review and Presentation (5 pages)	(25%)
5)	Final Exam	(25%)

Exams:

Both exams will include short answer identifications (ID's) drawn from class lectures and readings as well as essay questions. The final exam will cover materials from mainly the second half of the course. Lists of exam study questions, one or two of which will appear on the actual exam, are in the course reader. **Final Exam, December 20th, 2:45pm**

Short Paper:

A comprehension essay on "Winning of the West" from Week 5 will be due on **October 3rd** in class. All papers should be double-spaced and handed in on time. No late papers will be accepted. Topic questions and writing guidelines are in the course reader.

Individual Book Review and Section Presentation:

Starting Week 7, two students per section will review individual books and will offer 10-minute section presentations (either individually or in tandem), detailing how each title intersects with and extends class materials. An extended book review will also be handed in during section and will comprise 25% of the course grade. Students are encouraged to attend Wednesday office hours (except Oct. 25th) to discuss each review. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, properly formatted and referenced, and handed in on time.

Weekly Discussion Sections and Attendance:

Attendance and participation in weekly discussion sections are essential to the class and comprise (10%) of the final grade.

Credits and Additional Notes to Students:

This is an advanced undergraduate survey course in History. Students without prior exposure to American history or American Indian Studies have sometimes faced initial challenges, though dedicated and engaged students from all disciplines have done well in the course. This is also a 4-credit course. Students enrolled through the American Indian Studies Program can take the course for either 3 or 4 credits, though the course is designed for 4 credits of work, and no recalibrations of the requirements will be made.

Course Schedule:

Week 1

September 5 Course Goals and Purposes: What is Indian History?
September 7 Native North American Before 1492: the Bering Strait vs. Native Oral Traditions

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 1-62; Charles C. Mann, "1491"

Week 2

September 12 The Columbian Encounter, Exchange, and Conquest
September 14 The First Global Empire: Spain in Mexico and North America

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 63-78, 96-108; Crosby, 165-207

Week 3

September 19 New Worlds For All: American Indian Holocaust and Survival
2nd-Half Tour of Campus Indian Landmarks (weather permitting)

September 21 The Iroquois Confederacy and the Making of “the Middle Ground”

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 78-86, 109-119; Dennis, 1-85, 257-271

Week 4

September 26 Indians & Englishmen: New England, Virginia, and the Southeast
September 28 Red, White, and Black: Indians and the Atlantic World

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 86-95, 121-136; Taylor, 118-137, 188-203

Week 5

October 3 Horses, Empires, Warfare: the Indian West Before Lewis & Clark
(Short paper due in class)

October 5 After 1701: Realignment and the Imperial “Playoff System”

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 137-180, 225-239; White, “Winning the West;”
<http://www.jstor.org/view/00218723/di952393/95p0003d/0>

Week 6

October 10 The Imperial Wars of the 18th Century: Revolution and Crisis in
Indian Country

October 12 **Midterm Exam**

Weekly Readings: Wallace, 111-148; Loew, ix-23

Week 7

October 17 Indians and the Origins of the American Republic

October 19 From Allies to Exiles: the Formation of U.S. Indian Policy

Group A Book Reports, Philip Deloria, *Playing Indian* (reviews due in section)

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 193-209; Meinig, 78-103; Loew, 24-54

Week 8

October 24 Indian Removal and the Marshall Trilogy: Crisis in Federalism,
Crisis in Community

October 26 Territorial Expansion and Native Resistance, to 1860

Group B Book Reports, Lucy Murphy, *A Gathering of Rivers*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 209-224; 240-258; Loew, 54-99

Week 9

October 31 The Indian Wars to 1870

November 2 War, Peace, and Confinement: Treaties and Reservations

Group C Book Reports, Jeffrey Ostler, *The Plains Sioux and U.S. Colonialism*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 259-301; Ostler, 1-9, 313-369

Week 10

November 7 Institutions of US Colonialism: Education, Land, and Family
 November 9 Resisting Assimilation: Cultural, Religious, and Political Change

Group D Book Reports, Frederick Hoxie, *Parading Through History*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 335-396; Wilkinson, ix-26; Loew, 100-124

Week 11

November 14 Indians and the Making of 20th-Century American Popular Culture
 November 16 The Enduring Challenges of Impoverishment: the Traumatic and
 Personal Effects of Federal Indian Policy
Guest Lecture: Aaron Bird Bear, UW Indian Retention Office

Group E Book Reports, Noenoe Silva, *Aloha Betrayed*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 327-334; Kaplan, 51-91; Wilkinson, 27-86

Week 12

November 21 The Indian New Deal and After: Indian Policy in Crisis & Reform
 November 23 Thanksgiving (NO CLASS)

Group F Book Reports, Paige Raibmon, *Authentic Indians* (Monday sections only)

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 397-403; Wilkinson, 89-128; Alexie, 1-52

Week 13

November 28 The Roots and Rise of American Indian Activism
 November 30 The American Indian Renaissance in Literature, Art, & Education

Group G Book Reports, Smith and Warrior, *Like a Hurricane*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 403-425, 438-463; Deloria, vii-77; Wilkinson, 129-173

Week 14

December 5 Environmental and Legal Crises in Indian Country: 1970s and 80s
 December 7 A Decade of Achievement: Native North America in the 1990s

Group H Book Reports, Theda Perdue, ed., *Sifters: Native American Women's Lives*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 464-509, 527-548; Wilkinson, 177-303

Week 15

December 12 Facing the 21st Century: Contemporary Issues and Challenges
 December 14 The Contested Nature of American Indian History and Identity

Group I Book Reports, Frazier's *On the Rez* and Alexie's *Review* (www.fallsapart.com)

Weekly Readings: Deloria, 78-100; Alexie, 53-149; Wilkinson, 304-383; Selections
 from the National Museum of American Indian