

## **AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY: A SURVEY** (American Indian Studies and History 490)

Fall 2007, MWF 9:55-10:45am  
 Email: ncblackhawk@wisc.edu  
 Office Hours: Tuesday, 9-11am and by apt.

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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 meanings of American democracy, Indian history remains integral to understandings of American history and culture. This course introduces this complex and often ignored field of study.

### **Course Readings:**

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

Books: (Available at Underground Textbook Exchange)

- Colin Calloway, *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*
- James Merrell, *The Indians' New World: Catawbas and Their Neighbors from European Contact through the Era of Removal*
- Patty Loew, *Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal*
- Frederick Hoxie, *Parading Through History: The Making of the Crow Nation in America, 1805-1935*
- Charles Wilkinson, *Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations*
- 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. Failure to complete any of the required assignments and examinations will constitute a failed grade.

1)	Midterm Exam	(20%)
2)	Section Participation and Attendance	(10%)
3)	Short Paper (3 pages)	(15%)
4)	Individual Book Review (5 pages)	(20%)
5)	Comparative Movie Review (3 pages)	(15%)
6)	Final Exam	(20%)

### 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 mainly from the

second half of the course. Lists of midterm exam study questions, one or two of which will appear on the actual exam, are in the course reader. **Final Exam, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2:45pm**

Short Paper:

A comprehension essay on Week 4's readings will be due in class **September 26<sup>th</sup>**. All papers should be double-spaced, typed, and handed in on time. No late or emailed papers will be accepted. Topic questions along with writing guidelines are in the course reader.

Individual Book Review:

A five-page book review of Hoxie's *Parading Through History* is due on **November 9<sup>th</sup>** and will comprise a quarter of the course grade. Students will be given potential paper topics to focus their reviews. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, properly formatted, 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. Section assignments and room locations will be determined after the semester has begun. All students are expected to join a section once they are established.

Comparative Movie Review:

Starting on Fridays after the midterm, we will begin showing "pairs" of movies from different documentaries, Hollywood westerns, and contemporary Native filmmakers. Choosing one of these three "pairs" of films, compare and contrast their various approaches to American Indian experiences, identifying commonalities as well as differences between each film. Each review will be due the Monday after the last film has been shown and must be typed, double-spaced, and no more than three pages.

**Credits and Additional Notes to Students:**

This is an advanced undergraduate survey course and 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  
September 7                      Introducing America's Indian History

Weekly Readings:              Calloway, 1-11; Ned Blackhawk, "Recasting the Narrative of America: the Rewards and Challenges of Teaching American Indian History"  
<http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/jah/93.4/blackhawk.html>

**Week 2**

September 10                    Native North America before European Contact  
September 12                    The Columbian Encounter, Exchange, and Conquest  
September 14                    The First Global Empire: Spain in Mexico and North America

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 12-30, 56-78, 96-105; Charles C. Mann, "1491"

### Week 3

September 17 New Worlds For All: American Indian Holocaust and Survival  
 September 19 The Iroquois Confederacy Before and After Contact  
 September 21 The Rise of New France and the Making of "the Middle Ground"

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 44-55, 78-84, 109-120; Merrell, vii-27

### Week 4

September 24 Indians and Englishmen, Part I: New England  
 September 26 Indians & Englishmen, Part II: Virginia and the Carolinas  
**(short paper due)**  
 September 28 Horses, Guns, and Empires: The West Before Lewis and Clark

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 84-95; Merrell, 27-133

### Week 5

October 1 After 1701: the Imperial "Playoff System" in Eastern America  
 October 3 The Seven Years War and American Revolution in Indian Country  
 October 5 **Midterm Exam**

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 137-163, 172-180; Wallace, 111-148; Loew, ix-23

### Week 6

October 8 Indians and the Origins of the American Republic  
 October 10 From Allies to Exiles: the Formation of US Indian Policy  
 October 12 Film #1: PBS documentary, "Race" in the Early Republic

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 193-258; Meinig, 78-103; Loew, 24-54

### Week 7

October 15 The Marshall Rulings and After  
 October 17 Territorial Expansion and Native Resistance to 1850  
 October 19 Film #2: Documentary, *How the West Was Lost*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 259-293; Hoxie, 1-59; Loew, 54-99

### Week 8

October 22 The Civil War and Plains Indian Wars to 1868  
 October 24 The End of the Indian Wars, 1868-1890  
 October 26 War, Peace, and Confinement: Treaties and Reservations

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 294-334; Hoxie, 60-125

**Week 9**

October 29 Institutions of US Colonialism: Education, Land, and Family  
 October 31 Resisting Assimilation: Cultural, Religious, and Political Changes  
 (November 1 Native Film Debut: *Way of the Warrior*, Monona Terrace, 7pm)  
 November 2 Film #3: *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* (2007)

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 335-373, 377-396; Hoxie, either 126-194 or 195-265

**Week 10**

November 5 Indians and the Making of 20<sup>th</sup>-Century American Popular Culture  
 November 7 Indians in Unexpected Places: Early 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Indian History  
 November 9 The Enduring Challenges of Impoverishment: the Traumatic and  
 Personal Effects of Federal Indian Policy (**book reviews due**)  
**Guest Lecture: Aaron Bird Bear, UW Indian Retention Office**

Weekly Readings: Hoxie, 344-375; Wilkinson, ix-56

**Week 11**

November 12 The Indian New Deal: Revolution in Indian Policy  
 November 14 World War II and Termination: Cold War Indian Policy  
 November 16 Film #4: *Cheyenne Autumn* (1964)

Weekly Readings: Wilkinson, 57-128; Alexie, 1-52

**Week 12**

November 19 The Roots and Rise of American Indian Activism  
 November 21 Postwar Indian Activism in Wisconsin

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 397-425; Wilkinson, 129-173

**Week 13**

November 26 The American Indian Renaissance in Literature, Art, & Education  
 November 28 Canadian First Nations and Native Hawaiian Challenges  
 November 30 Film #5: *Smoke Signals*

Weekly Readings: Wilkinson, 177-268

**Week 14**

December 3 Environmental and Legal Crises in Indian Country: 1970s and 80s  
 December 5 A Decade of Achievement: Native North America in the 1990s  
 December 7 Film #6: *Skins*

Weekly Readings: Calloway, 464-509; Wilkinson, 271-383

**Week 15**

December 10 The Oneida of Wisconsin in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: A Case Study

December 12      Facing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Contemporary Issues and Challenges  
December 14      Final Exam Review Session

Weekly Readings:      Alexie, 53-149; Loew, 100-126