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NASX 465.B01: History of American Indian Affairs in the 19th Century

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NASX465 History of Indian Affairs—19th Century (1776 to 1930)

TR 11:00-12:20 NAC 105 (with online option)

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Davies

Email: wade.davies@mso.umt.edu

Office Hours: by Zoom by appointment

Course Description

This class studies Indigenous relations with the United States from the time of the American Revolution through the early 1900s. It focuses on U.S. federal policies; strategies different Native communities and individuals employed to best deal with non-Native geographical, cultural, political, and military encroachment; and the short and long-term consequences of these relationships, policies, and Native responses.

Learning Outcomes

Students should leave the course with:

1. the ability to describe changing political and legal relationships Native Americans had with the United States federal government and other key non-Native groups during this time period.
2. knowledge of key policies enacted by non-Native governments
3. the ability to pinpoint where and when the communities and nations covered in this course existed.
4. the basic knowledge and analytical skills necessary to explain how and why different Native communities responded to non-Natives as they did.
5. the ability to explain what alternative, but historically reasonable, responses Indigenous communities could have had, and explain the likely outcomes of such actions.

Required Readings

R. David Edmunds. *Tecumseh*.

Theda Perdue and Michael Green eds. *The Cherokee Removal*.

David Nichols. *Lincoln and the Indians*.

James Welch. *Killing Custer*.

Selected Readings posted to Moodle in chapter or article form as pdf files (you don't need to purchase these).

Course Requirements

Three Exams: 45 points each=135 points total

Three 4-5 page assignments: 15-20 points each=55 points total

Participation: 10 points total

Total class points possible=200 points

The final grade is determined as a percentage based on the combined points earned out of a total 200 possible for the above assignments. Minus and plus grades follow the pattern where an 80-81% (equal to 160-163 total points), for example, would be a B-, and 82-87% a B, and an 88-89% a B+. There are no A+ grades at UM, so anything from 92 to 100 is an A.

Assignment Guidelines, Expectations, and Grading Policies

The three exams cover lecture and reading material presented in each third of the course (so they are not cumulative). They are composed of short and long essay questions and are all done as “take-homes.” I’ll post the questions to you through Moodle with set due dates and times. You will then answer these as a Word document (or a pdf is acceptable) and post it to me through the provided portals on the Moodle site. Note that these exams won’t be posted until a week prior to when they’re due.

In addition to the exams, there are three assignments (ranging from 15-20 points each), due between the exams, that focus on portions of the assigned readings. These will range from minimum lengths of four to five double-spaced pages, depending on the particulars of the assignment, will be completed at home, and must be submitted through Moodle by the assigned due dates.

Your participation accounts for the remaining 10 points of your overall grade. This grade is determined by your consistent attendance (in person or through Zoom); your consistency at satisfactorily completing all assignments and exams on (or ahead of) time; by your thoroughness at incorporating fine details from the readings in all the written assignments and exams; and by your consistent participation in class discussions and/or individual Zoom meetings with the professor.

Late submissions: Exams and assignments may still be submitted **up to one-week late** but **will be assessed late penalties**. Anything that is turned in late, but within 24 hours of the deadline, will be assessed a **-2** point penalty. Anything turned in late by *more* than 24 hours will be assessed a **-4** point penalty. **No assignments or exams will be accepted more than one week late.** Beyond the specified penalties, turning in multiple late assignments and exams will also negatively impact your participation grade.

Calendar

Consult the weekly Moodle pages for a list of weekly topics covered as well as all due dates for required readings, assignments, and exams.

Student Conduct Code

Please consult [UM's student conduct code](#) regarding “expected standards of behavior for all students, including academic conduct” and “students’ rights, responsibilities, and the campus process for adjudicating alleged violations.”

Disability modifications

If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please [contact DSS](#). I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.