

Fall 9-1-2000

NAS 100H.80: Introduction to Native American Studies - Honors

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NAS 100 Syllabus

Fall Semester, 2000
University of Montana
3 Semester Credits

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Hours: M, Tu 3-4, W 2-3
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**Introduction to Native American Studies
NAS 100H Syllabus
Honors Course**

Course description: This is a survey course to acquaint the student with Native American studies by a general overview of Indian history, culture, philosophy and religion. An examination of tribal core cultural values will provide the groundwork for this study. The course will cover these areas within the following thematic fields of study: governance, family, economy, education, environment, history and world view.

Course Objectives

1. The student will have a good general overview of Native America
2. The student will have a basic understanding of historic, cultural, and legal issues which impact Native American communities and individuals in the United States
3. The student will have a basic understanding of the political and legal relationship between the Native American nations and the federal, state and local governments in the United States
4. The student will have a basic understanding of Native American world views and core cultural values

Required Readings

Child, Brenda. *Boarding School Days*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998

Jennings, Francis. *The Invasion of America: Indians, Colonialism, and the Cant of Conquest*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1976

Silko, Leslie Marmon, *Ceremony*. New York: The Viking Press, 1977.

Welch, James. *Fools Crow*. New York: Penguin, 1986

Whaley, Rick and Walt Bresette: *Walleye Warriors, The Chippewa Treaty Rights Story*, rev ed. Warner NH: Writers Publishing Cooperative, 1994

Recommended reading:

Champagne, Duane et al., *Native America: Portrait of the Peoples*. Visible Ink Press, 1993

Schedule

- Week 1, September 5, 7: Introductions and purposes:
Historical misunderstandings and the place of Native American Studies in Academe
- Week 2, September 12, 14: Pre-Columbian
Jennings Chapter 1-5
- Week 3, September 19, 21: Invasion
Jennings Chapter 6-10
- Week 4, September 26, 28: Belief systems: before and after
Short Essay #1 due September 28
- Week 5: October 3, 5: Tribal economies
Welch
- Week 6, October 10, 12: Reservations
- Week 7, October 17, 19: "Getting out of the Indian business"
Child (October 17)
Midterm Exam October 19
- Week 8, October 24, 26: Cultural retention
- Week 9, October 31, November 2: Legal issues: the basis of tribal sovereignty
- Week 10, November 7, 9: Termination and Displacement
- Week 11, November 14, 16: Population and Demography: Relocation
Silko, *Short Essay #2 due November 16*
- Week 12, November 21, 23: Current issues: Families
November 23: THANKSGIVING: No Classes
- Week 13, November 28, 30: Current issues: Religious Issues
Term Paper due November 28
- Week 14, December 5, 7: Current Issues: Treaty Rights
Whaley and Bresette

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Week 15, December 12, 14: Current Issues: Self Determination
Short essay #3 due December 12

Week 16: Week of December 18: *Final Examination*

Written Assignments:

Short Essays: 1) Write a 1-2 page analysis (500 words maximum) of a chapter of your choice from the Jennings assignment. 5 points. 2) Write a 4-5 page comparative analysis of the two works of fiction, discussing what we learn about Native society from the books (Welch and Silko). 10 points. 3) Write a 1-2 page analysis of the Whaley and Bresette book. 5 points. All papers must be typed or computer generated, double spaced

Term Paper Assignment: Select a topic from the course and research that topic as it relates to a single Indian nation. Approve the topic with the instructor. Develop a series of questions you will ask, and write a 6-8 page paper addressing them. Be sure to include a bibliography and citations.

Midterm and Final Exams consist of both essay questions and short answer questions

Points		Grading	
Attendance/Participation	20	90-100	A
Midterm Exam	20	80-89	B
Final Exam	20	70-79	C
Short Essays	20	60-69	D
Term Paper	20	↓ 60	F