Fall 9-1-2000

NAS 341.01: Contemporary Issues - American Indians

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NAS 341: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES - AMERICAN INDIANS

Fall 2000
M/W/F * 9:10-10:00am * Liberal Arts 305

INSTRUCTOR: Richard A. Sattler
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OFFICE HOURS: M/T 10:00-11:00am

This course is structured to provide students with a discussion of the development and current status of the contemporary issues confronting Native American people. Even though the sources of many of these current dilemmas that Native Americans face may be decades or centuries old, the issues still affect tribal members today whether they live in rural or urban environments. The goals of this course are twofold: First, the course will explore the historical roots of the issues. Secondly, we will examine the current dimensions of the issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. To develop appreciation for the nature and range of contemporary issues affecting Native Americans.
2. To promote understanding of the interrelationships between historical, cultural, economic, and political factors affecting American Indians today.
3. To understand the historical development and contemporary situation of Native American communities and individuals.
4. To develop familiarity with the major scholarly sources on contemporary American Indian issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: This course is designed to include both lecture and discussion. All students are expected to read and evaluate all assigned readings and to be ready to discuss them on the assigned date. Your active and informed participation enriches the experience for everyone.

Course Evaluation:
Examinations - There will be a mid-term and a final exam. Both exams will consist of short answer questions and essay questions and each will be worth 100 points. The final exam will not be comprehensive.
Research Papers - There is also a ten page research paper on a topic of your choice relating to the course content. You must submit your topic for approval by the instructor by the end of the fifth week of class (Oct 6). Papers will be evaluated on content, originality, organization, and style. All papers must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page. Two (2) copies of all papers are due on Friday, December 8. The paper is worth 100 points. If you need assistance in starting your paper, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.
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**Undergraduate Grading Scale:** Grading is on a straight point system:

- 300-270 = A
- 269-240 = B
- 239-210 = C
- 209-180 = D
- 0-179 = F

**Graduate Students:** Graduate students are required to write a fifteen (15) page research paper on a topic of their choice relating to the subject of the class. Graduate students will be graded on individual academic performance.

**Extra Credit:** Students wishing to earn extra credit may write a 3-5 page critical review of one of the recommended books listed below. Other books may be considered with the consent of the instructor. Reviews are worth up to 10 points and only two (2) review can be accepted per student. See instructor for details. Students may also earn 5 points extra credit by showing proof that they have voted in the general election on November 7.

**Late Work and Make-Ups:** Students are expected to turn in all work on the scheduled due date listed in the syllabus. Make-ups will only be given in the case of unavoidable absences. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible in such cases and to arrange for a make-up. Late work is subject to a 1/3 letter grade penalty per day (exclusive of weekends and holidays). No late work will be accepted after the regularly scheduled final examine unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

**Academic Honesty:** The University of Montana expects its students to be academically honest, particularly in regard to plagiarism. "Plagiarism is the representing of another's work as one's own." Both copyright laws and University policies are rigid as concerns plagiarism. Consult the "Academic Policies and Procedures" section of the current University catalog for details regarding penalties for plagiarism.

**Required Readings:**

**Recommended Readings:** The following recommended readings are selected to allow students to explore in greater detail various issues.
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PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1  INTRODUCTION
READINGS: Berkhofer.
Film: “Winds of Change: A matter of Promises” VT02244 (60)

WEEK 2  INDIANS IN WESTERN INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS
READINGS: Berkhofer.
Film: “Science or Sacrilege” (57)

WEEK 3  INDIANS IN POPULAR CULTURE
READINGS: Berkhofer.
Film: “White Shamans, Plastic Medicine Men” (26)

WEEK 4  RACE, CULTURE, & COMMUNITY
READINGS: Sider.

Sep 25  LAST DAY TO ADD/DROP (DIAL BEAR)

WEEK 5  CONTESTED HISTORIES
READINGS: Sider.
Film: “The Southeast: No Matter How White” (50)

WEEK 6  THE STATE AND TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY
READINGS: Sider.

WEEK 7  TREATIES AND TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY
READINGS: Boxberger
Film: “The North American Indians, Pt. 1: Treaties Made - Treaties Broken” (18)
“Trail of Broken Treaties” (27)

Oct 16  LAST DAY TO ADD/DROP

WEEK 8  HUNTING & FISHING RIGHTS
Readings: Boxberger.
Film: “Lighting the Seventh Fire” (60)
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Oct 25  MIDTERM EXAM

WEEK 9  WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES
Readings: Boxberger
Film: “Keepers of the Waters” (39)

WEEK 10  SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS
Readings: Faiman-Silva
Film: “Winds of Change: A matter of Choice” VT02245 (58)

Nov. 10  VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY

WEEK 11  HEALTH & EDUCATION
Readings: Faiman-Silva
Film: “In The White Man’s Image” (60)

WEEK 12  RACISM & DISCRIMINATION
Readings: Faiman-Silva

Nov 22-26  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

WEEK 13  ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: HISTORY
Readings: Ambler.
Film: “The North American Indians, Pt. 3: Lament of the Reservation” (30)

WEEK 14  COLONIALISM, UNDERDEVELOPMENT, & TRIBAL ECONOMIES
Readings: Ambler.
Film: “Indian Country” (50)

Dec 8  LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW
RESEARCH PAPERS DUE

WEEK 15  FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Readings: Ambler.
Film: “_____”

Dec 21 (Thurs) - 8:00am  FINAL EXAM