NASX 260.01: Indians of North America: Indigenous/Rural Sustainable Community Development in Mexico, the United States and Canada

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Indians of North America:  
Indigenous/Rural Sustainable Community Development  
in Mexico, the United States and Canada  
NAS 260 Syllabus

Course description: This course introduces the student to concepts in indigenous/rural sustainable community development in the countries of North America in broad historical and cultural frameworks.

Course Objectives:
1. Understand our neighbors
   A. Understand indigenous communities and cultures of three countries
   B. Understand indigenous relationships to the nation
   C. Understand commonalities/differences among indigenous societies in North America
2. Provide students with background and skills to be able to go into communities
   A. Theory
   B. Practice

Learning Outcomes:
1. Articulate understanding of Objective 1 in written and oral formats
2. Articulate community development practices used by indigenous groups/rural communities
3. Demonstrate knowledge of community development processes

Required Readings
Gordon-McCutchan, R.C and Frank Waters, *Taos Indians and the Battle for Blue Lake*.  
Santa Fe: Red Crane Books, 1995

Ross, Rupert. *Dancing with a Ghost.*

Traven, B. *The Bridge in the Jungle.* Any printing

Course Schedule
Week 1, August 27, 29: Introductions and Overview: Community Development Model

Week 2, September 3, 5: North America: An overview

Week 3, September 10, 12: Mexico overview
Week 4, September 17, 19: Mexican law and policies

Week 5, September 24, 26: Canada Overview
   Ross book review due Thursday

Week 6, October 1, 3: Canadian law and policies

Week 7, October 8, 10: United States Overview

Week 8: October 15, 17: United States Law and Policies
   Midterm Examination Thursday

Week 9: October 22, 24: Case studies: Mexico I
   Traven book review due Thursday

Week 10: October 19, 31: Case studies: Mexico II

Week 11: November 5, 7: Case studies: Canada I

Week 12: November 12, 14: Case Studies: Canada II

Week 13: November 19, 21: Case Studies: United States I
   Gordon-McCutchan book review due Thursday

Week 14: November 26, 28: Case Studies: United States II
   Thanksgiving holiday Thursday

Week 15: December 3, 5: Conclusions: Comparative discussions
   Final Paper Due Tuesday

Week 16, Week of December 9: Final Examination Thursday December 12, 10:10-12:10

Book/reading analyses: 3-4 page (1,000 words maximum) analysis of the reading assignment for Traven, Ross and Gordon-McCutchan books, based on questions assigned. 10 points each. Must be typed or computer generated, double spaced. 3 points deducted for late paper.

Final Paper: Assignment will be handed out in class
Examinations consist of both essay questions and short answer questions. Study questions and lists of terms will be distributed before examinations
Attendance will be taken each class period. If you miss signing in, you do not receive credit for attendance
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**NOTE:** CR/NCR is *not* an option in Native American Studies Courses

Please be familiar with the Student Conduct Code, part IV, and follow it.