

COURSE SYLLABUS AMERICAN INDIAN ETHNOLOGY

Version of August 30, 2005

**Anthropology (ANT 4312-U01) or Liberal Studies Colloquia (IDS 4920-U01)
Fall 2005 - Tuesdays 3:30 to 6:15 PCA 150
University Park Campus - Miami, Florida
Florida International University**

Course web page: <http://www.fiu.edu/~wiedmand/courses/naethnology/>

INSTRUCTOR

Dennis Wiedman, Ph.D. Associate Professor. Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Office Hours: University Park - Tuesdays 10:00 to Noon or by appointment.

Offices: University Park DM, 336B. Phone 305-348-2262

Biscayne Bay AC 1, 310. 305-919-5568

Email: Wiedmand@fiu.edu Web Page: www.fiu.edu/~wiedmand

Email communication should be within WebCT. I try to respond to emails within three days.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to Native American culture. It focuses on the Indigenous peoples of North America with a special emphasis on the historical, archaeological, economical, environmental, political, legal, spiritual, and artistic aspects of Native America. Native cultures of Florida are highlighted. Special attention is given to how sociocultural methods and theories can be used to understand the past as well as contemporary life.

COURSE OBJECTIVES On completion of this course the student should:

- 1) Recognize the similarities and differences among North American tribal groups.
- 2) Respect the historical and cultural importance of tribal sovereignty, kinship relations, oral traditions, spirituality, language, and arts of Native Americans today.
- 3) Identify tribal arts, music, dance, literature, and architecture within the cultural context of Native American communities.
- 4) Appreciate the economic, health, environmental, political, and legal issues that have been and continue to influence the everyday lives of contemporary Native Americans.
- 5) Understand the effects of culture change, modernization, and globalization on Indigenous peoples.
- 6) Value the methods and theories of comparative sociocultural analysis.

REQUIRED BOOK

Mark Sutton

2004 An Introduction to Native North America. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

WEB ASSISTED MATERIALS

WebCT is used to support class presentations and the student learning experience. Learning components such as related readings, web page links, study aids, discussions, emails, extra credit exercises, local events, writing assignments, and a glossary are provided on-line. Read “Announcements” for course instructions and check “Content” regularly for course information. Email instructor only within WebCT. It is required that students participate in the on-line email, discussions, and assignments within WebCT. Internet access can be through any computer. Computers in the FIU computer labs and the library are available for those who do not have personal computers. Begin WebCT from bottom of FIU main page, or go directly to: http://webct.fiu.edu/webct/ticket/ticketLogin?action=print_login&request_uri=/webct/homearea/homearea%3F

Learn how to get started with WebCT or find answers to your questions at: http://uts.fiu.edu/index.cfm?action=webct_studfaq

Native American Resources: Knowing, Understanding and Appreciating Native America.

This set of web pages is designed to facilitate Native American Studies by providing links to selected information sources and innovative Internet presentations.

Web page: <http://www.fiu.edu/~wiedmand/naresources/index.htm>

eHRAF: Human Relations Area Files is an internationally recognized archive for encouraging and facilitating worldwide comparative studies of human behavior, society, and culture. The eHRAF Collection of Ethnography contains over 350,000 pages of information on all aspects of cultural and social life with diverse topics ranging from bringing up children to religious beliefs to causes and cures of diseases. Information is organized into cultures, ethnic groups, and archaeological traditions. Full-text sources (books, articles, and dissertations) are numerically subject-indexed at the paragraph-level. Course reading and writing assignments will utilize this resource. Access through FIU library, Digital Resources.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1) **Quizzes** will focus on class lectures, films, readings, and special presentations up to the prior class meeting. Through quizzes the student can demonstrate an understanding of the subject. They are composed of essays, multiple choice, and word identifications, etc.
- 2) **Discussions** both in-class and on-line demonstrate the student's interest in the course, understanding of the materials, as well as critical thinking and writing skills.

3) **Essays** demonstrate the student's skills in research methods, analysis and writing. They will focus on a comparison of the similarities and differences between two Native American cultures. Best scores are given to those that integrate the course readings, discussions, and presentations with the student's research and experiences. Three essays are scheduled. Essay 1 & 2 are 500-750 words each, third essay 1500 to 2500 words. Printed version due at beginning of scheduled class, enter electronic version in WebCT by 3:00 PM. In-text citations and "References Cited" at the end of the text must be in the style of the American Anthropologist at http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style_guide.htm.

4) **Final Examination** covers the entire course. Failure to take the final examination at the scheduled time will result in a letter grade deduction from the test result. Legitimate reasons for not taking the exam at the scheduled time must be approved by the instructor prior to that date.

EXTRA CREDIT

Out-of-Class Activity: Attend a Native American activity, exhibit, etc. Write a 300 - 600 word description/analysis on a specific aspect related to course topic. Worth up to 3 points each and must be approved in advance by the instructor. Submitted via WebCT.

Learning Exercises: Projects will be issued during the course within WebCT. Extra credit points vary.

READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Readings should be completed by the scheduled class meeting. Chapter titles pertain to *An Introduction to Native North America* by Mark Sutton.

Week One: August 30: First Day of Class

Week Two : September 6

On-line Projects to do within WebCT
Powerpoint presentation introducing WebCT
Student Background Survey
Readings to have completed by this class meeting:
Chapter 1 - Introduction
Chapter 2 - European Invasion and Conquest

Week Three: September 13

Readings: Chapter 12 – Native Peoples of the Southeast

Week Four: September 20

Readings: Chapter 3 – Native Peoples of the Arctic
Quiz 1

Week Five: September 27

Readings: Chapter 4 – Native Peoples of the Subarctic.
Essay 1

Week Six: October 4

Readings: Chapter 5 – Native Peoples of the Plateau

Week Seven: October 11

Readings: Chapter 6 - Native Peoples of the Northwest Coast

Week Eight: October 18

Readings: Chapter 7 – Native Peoples of the Great Basin
Quiz 2

Week Nine: October 25

Readings: Chapter 8 – Native Peoples of California
Essay 2

Week Ten: November 1

Readings: Chapter 9 – Native Peoples of the Southwest

Week Eleven: November 8

Readings: Chapter 10 – Native Peoples of the Plains

Week Twelve: November 15

Readings: Chapter 11 – Native Peoples of the Northeast

Week Thirteen: November 22

Readings: Chapter 13 – Contemporary Issues
Essay 3: Course Paper Due at beginning of class.

Week Fourteen: November 29

Last date to submit extra credit projects.

Week Fifteen: December 6

Course Review

Week Sixteen: December 13

Final Examination: Regular Class Time

CLASS PARTICIPATION

During class and in WebCT the instructor will promote discussion on the topics and issues. Students should be prepared to verbally and in writing demonstrate their comprehension of the class presentation and integration of the reading materials.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken throughout the term. You may have two recorded absences without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the total points earned during the semester. Students who wish to observe their religious holidays should inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

ACADEMIC ETHICS

It is strictly prohibited to submit as one's own work material provided by a professional research agency, the internet, or other persons. A grade of F for the course will be assigned to any student who violates these principles. Essays may be submitted to "Turn-It-In" for an assessment of originality. The instructor also has the authority to consider academic misconduct charges that carry considerable penalties. Please consult the University student handbook for further information on plagiarism and its consequences.

GRADING

Quizzes (3 @ 10 points each)	30
Discussions/Participation: In Class	10
WebCT	10
Essays 1	5
2	10
3 Course Paper	15
Final Exam	20
Total Points	100
Add Extra Credit	--
Subtract Attendance	--
Grand Total	--

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION

Grand Total Points			
A	= 95 - 100	C	= 70 - 72
A-	= 90 - 94	C-	= 67 - 69
B+	= 85 - 89	D+	= 63 - 66
B	= 80 - 84	D	= 60 - 62
B-	= 77 - 79	F	= 59 or less
C+	= 73 - 76		