COURSE SYLLABUS
AMERICAN INDIAN ETHNOLOGY

Version of August 30, 2004

Anthropology (ANT 4312-U01) or Liberal Studies Colloquia (IDS 4920-U02)
Fall 2004 - Tuesdays 6:25 to 9:05

PCA 150 - Paul Ceyas Architecture Building - Auditorium
University Park Campus - Miami, Florida
Florida International University

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

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

REQUIRED BOOK

Mark Sutton
   Boston: Pearson, 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. It is required that students participate in the on-line email, discussions, assignments and quizzes 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. Go to WebCT from FIU main page, or go directly to: http://webct.fiu.edu/webct/public/home.pl?action=print_home

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. Web page: http://www.yale.edu/hraf/index.html
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Quizzes and submission of assignments are primarily through WebCT.

1) **Quizzes** will focus on class lectures, films, readings and special presentations. Through quizzes the student can demonstrate an understanding of the materials presented and their integration into the total course. Three quizzes are scheduled.

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** are short written statements that 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. 500 words each. Follow the style guide of the American Anthropological Association at [http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style_guide.htm](http://www.aaanet.org/pubs/style_guide.htm)

4) **Final Examination** covers the entire course. Scheduled at time published in University calendar.

EXTRA CREDIT

**Out-of-Class Activity:** Attend a Native American activity, exhibit, etc. and write a 300 - 600 word description/analysis. Up to 5 extra points each. Approved in advance by the instructor. Submitted via WebCT.

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

TOPIC AND COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule is available from the course web page. Here you can find dates for topic presentations, quizzes, discussions and assignments. It is updated as the course proceeds.
READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Readings are be completed by the class meeting date. Chapter titles pertain to “An Introduction to Native North America,” by Mark Sutton.

Week One: August 31: First Day of Class
WebCT
   On-line Powerpoint presentation introducing WebCt
   Student Background Survey

Week Two: September 7
Readings to be completed by this class meeting:
   Chapter 1 - Introduction
   2 – European Invasion and Conquest
WebCT- Pretest

Week Three: September 14
Readings: Chapter 3 – Native Peoples of the Arctic

Week Four: September 21
Readings: Chapter 4 – Native Peoples of the Subarctic.
WebCT - Quiz 1. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. September 24.

Week Five: September 28
Readings: Chapter 5 – Native Peoples of the Plateau
   6 - Native Peoples of the Northwest Coast

Week Six: October 5
Readings: Chapter 7 – Native Peoples of the Great Basin
WebCT - Essay 1. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. October 8.

Week Seven: October 12
Readings: Chapter 8 – Native Peoples of California
   9 – Native Peoples of the Southwest

Week Eight: October 19
Readings: Chapter 10 – Native Peoples of the Plains
WebCT - Quiz 2. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. October 22.

Week Nine: October 26
Readings: Chapter 11 – Native Peoples of the Northeast

Week Ten: November 2
Readings: Chapter 12 – Native Peoples of the Southeast
WebCT - Essay 2. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. November 5.
Week Eleven: November 9
Readings: Chapter 13 – Contemporary Issues

Week Twelve: November 16
WebCT - Quiz 3. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. November 19.

Week Thirteen: November 23

Week Fourteen: November 30
WebCT - Essay 3. Submitted by Friday, 9:00 AM. December 3.

Week Fifteen: December 7

Week Sixteen
Final Examination: As in University schedule.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken occasionally throughout the term. You may have one recorded absence without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will reduce the total points earned during the semester.

QUIZZES AND FINAL EXAMINATION

Quizzes demonstrate the students understanding of the course presentations and readings. These focus on the course and materials up to that time. They are composed of multiple choice, word identification, etc. Primarily administered on-line via WebCT.

The final examination will be cumulative of the entire course. Failure to take the exam at the scheduled time will result in a letter grade deduction from the final examination score. If for some legitimate reason you cannot take the exam at this time, it must be discussed and approved by the instructor prior to that date.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Discussion on the topics and issues are promoted during class and in WebCT. Students should be prepared to verbally and in writing demonstrate their comprehension of the class presentation and integration of the reading materials.

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. 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 (10 points each) 30
Discussions: On-line & In-Class 20
Essays (10 points each) 30
Final Exam 20

Total Points 100
Extra Credit # #

Grand Total # # #

Final Grade Calculation
Grand Total Points minus attendance
A = 90 - 100  C = 70 - 72
A- = 87 – 89  C- = 67 - 69
B+ = 83 – 86  D+ = 63 – 66
B = 80 – 82  D- = 60 - 62
B- = 77 - 79  F = 59 or less
C+ = 73 – 76