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.

INSTRUCTOR  
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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.

READINGS  

eHRAF. Electronic Human Relations Area Files.