

History 285f: Native American History, 1492 to the Present

Fall 2009

Neal Salisbury

Office Hour: Tue., 1:30-2:30 and by appointment; Skinner 311
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This course offers a broad overview of Native Americans north of present-day Mexico since the earliest European arrivals. It focuses on the relations of selected American Indian peoples with one another and with non-Indians in various historical periods.

Within this framework it emphasizes:

- survival and resistance of Native peoples in the face of sustained assaults on their persons, homelands, and cultural identities
- demographic, economic, political, legal, and religious-ideological dimensions of European and Euro-American colonization of North America and its indigenous peoples
- experiences of Native women and issues of gender in American Indian history
- ways that Native Americans have shaped the “mainstream” history of North America since 1500
- problems of historical research and interpretation, especially as these pertain to Indian people and Indian perspectives

Class Meetings and Readings: You are expected to complete the assigned reading in advance of each meeting and to bring it to class for our discussions. You should also have a copy of this syllabus and of any handouts distributed for the meeting.

The following required readings are on sale at Odyssey Bookshop and available on reserve in Williston Library:

Edmunds, Hoxie, and Salisbury, The People: A History of Native America (Houghton Mifflin)

Hurtado and Iverson, Major Problems in American Indian History, 2ND edition only (Houghton Mifflin)

Perdue, Sifters: Native American Women’s Lives (Oxford University Press)

There are also several videos, indicated in the schedule that follows.

Grading and written assignments:

You will be required to complete four written (hard copy) assignments:

- a brief (2-3 pp.) essay on one of the primary sources assigned through Sept. 29
- A midterm take-home exam (4-6 pp.), based on materials covered in class
- A research paper (7-9 pp.) contextualizing a primary source outside assigned readings
- A final take-home exam (6-8 pp.), based on material covered in the course

Details on each of these assignments will be distributed. Deadlines are indicated in the schedule below. Late exams and papers will be penalized. Grades will be weighted as follows: One sixth will be evenly divided between the midterm and class participation (including attendance), one third for the research paper, and one third for the final exam. The first essay will be graded but will not factor in your course grade.

SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS
LECTURE-DISCUSSION TOPICS AND READINGS

(Schedule subject to change in the event of unanticipated developments, e.g., Mountain Day)

I. Situating Native Americans

- Thu. Sept. 10 Course Introduction
- Tue. Sept. 15 Native Peoples in History
Video: Indian America: A Gift from the Past (library reserve)
Hurtado, preface, pp. 1-17
Perdue, preface, pp. 3-13
Edmunds, preface
- Thu. Sept. 17 First Americans
Edmunds, 1-26
Hurtado, 18-28, 44-54

II. Encountering European Colonizers

- Tue. Sept. 22 Strangers from Another World, 1492-1600
Edmunds, 27-52
Hurtado, 56-61, 63-77
- Thu. Sept. 24 The Chesapeake and New England, 1600-1700
Edmunds, 53-54, 64-69, 72-75, 87-91
Perdue, 14-28
Hurtado, 61-63
- Tue. Sept. 29 The Southeast and Southwest, 1600-1720
Edmunds, 75-79, 95-107
Hurtado, 93-98
FIRST ESSAY DUE
- Thu. Oct. 1 Video: Pocahontas Revealed
4:30: Spokane/Coeur d'Alene author Sherman Alexie, UMass Fine Arts Ctr. Concert Hall
- Tue. Oct. 6 The Eastern Interior, 1600-1754
Edmunds, 55-64, 81-87, 91-102, 113-19
Perdue, 29-47
DISTRIBUTE MIDTERM QUESTIONS
- Thu. Oct. 8 The Plains, 1700-1820
Edmunds, 128-37, 151-55
Hurtado, 140-49, 228-30, 238-57
- FALL BREAK**
- Thu. Oct. 15 **MIDTERM ESSAYS DUE**
DISTRIBUTE PRIMARY SOURCE PAPER GUIDELINES

Video: We Shall Remain

III. Confronting U.S. Ethnic Cleansing

- Tue. Oct. 20 Whose American Revolution? 1754-1783
Edmunds, 137-51
Perdue, 48-59
Hurtado, 163-69
- Thu. Oct. 22 Discussion of Resources and Research Strategies for Paper Project
with Bryan Goodwin, LITS liaison to History Dept.
Williston Library 418
- Tue. Oct. 27 Resisting an “Empire of Liberty,” 1783-1820
Edmunds, 164-87
Hurtado, 169-81, 199-203, 207-17
- Thu. Oct. 29 Removals and Civil Wars, 1820-77
Edmunds, 213-39, 243-50, 269-76
Hurtado,
Perdue, 77-91
- Tue. Nov. 3 Intruders in Western Homelands, 1800-1860
Edmunds, 189-204, 210-12, 241-43, 263-67
Hurtado, 205-6, 217-26
- Thu. Nov. 5 Thrice Colonized California Indians, 1769-1870
Edmunds, 155-63, 253-60
Hurtado, 98-104, 231-38, 257-74
- Tue. Nov. 6 Wars in the West, 1860-86
Edmunds, 268-69, 277-308, 315-21
Perdue, 92-107
Hurtado, 313-16, 320-22

IV. Surviving Modern America

- Thu. Nov. 8 Search for Renewal, 1880-1900
Edmunds, 322-45
Perdue, 108-26
Hurtado, 316-19, 348-54
- Tue. Nov. 10 Building Communities, 1900-30
Edmunds, 347-72
Perdue, 160-74
Hurtado, 360-71
- Thu. Nov. 12 A “New Deal” For Indians, 1930-45
Edmunds, 373-96
Hurtado, 388-96, 410-17, 419-23

- Tue. Nov. 17 Oral reports on primary source papers
- Thu. Nov. 19 Oral reports on primary source papers
- Tue. Nov. 24 Finish oral reports on primary source papers
PRIMARY SOURCE PAPERS DUE
Video: [Another Wind Is Moving](#)
- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- Tue. Dec. 1 Termination and Relocation, 1945-60
Edmunds, 397-415
Perdue, 175-86
Hurtado, 423-33
- Thu. Dec. 3 Red Power, 1960-75
Edmunds, 415-35
Perdue, 204-41
Hurtado, 452-60
- Tue. Dec. 8 Sovereignty and Identity
Edmunds, 435-52
Hurtado, 486-503
- Thu. Dec. 10 The Present and Future
Edmunds, 454-73
Hurtado, 503-19
Distribute final exam questions
- Tue. Dec. 15 Video: [Alcatraz Is Not an Island](#)
Review exam questions
- Fri. Dec. 21 FINALS DUE