

HC 326 Contemporary Native American Issues

Summer Quarter 2005

Thursdays 6:30-9:30

6/16/05 – 8/18/05

Naperville Campus

Instructor: Arieahn Matamonasa, Ph.D.

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Course Description:

Native Americans are part of our history and heritage, yet many Americans have little knowledge beyond stereotypes. While invisible to the mainstream, Native American cultures are surviving, striving and in some cases, thriving as we enter the new millennium. This course will explore the complex issues facing Native Americans today through discussions, films, readings, experiential learning activities and Native American news media to enable students to gain a cross-cultural perspective. Students will choose an area of focus on this subject and conduct independent research to present to their classmates.

Competencies Offered:

- H4
- H-1-E
- S-3-X
- A-3-C
- Optional L7 – will be discussed during the first class session

Students will complete independent projects in order to meet their individual competency requirements. Students taking the class for (2) competencies may attempt to combine them in their final projects.

Required Text

Contemporary Native American Cultural Issues (1999). Duane Champagne (Ed.).
Walnut Creek, CA: Alta Mira Press.

Field Trips

There will be one required field trip to the Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures in Aurora on June 23rd at 6:30 pm. There is a fee of \$3.00 per student.

There will also be an optional field study date TBA.

Additional Course Materials

On a weekly basis, the course instructor will provide journals, print media and supplementary materials.

Students will be expected to access various online sources and Blackboard in completing some assignments.

Attendance and Grading Policy

Attendance is very important to students' success in this course. DePaul University policy states that **more** than (2) absences should result in an FX grade being assigned. Students will have the opportunity to receive partial credit for any missed classes via make-up assignments.

Extra-credit assignments will also be available.

Grading is done on a percentage/point system as outlined below.

Letter grades and percentages:

- 91-100% = A
- 81-90% = B
- 71-80% = C
- 61-70% = D
- 60% > = F

Points:

- Attendance and active participation in class = 5 points per class 50 points
(If a student wishes to make-up a missed class 2.5 points will be given)
- 5 Essay/Personal Reflection Assignments at 10 points each 50 points
- Final Project 100 points
- Total Class Points possible before extra-credit = 200 points

Assignments

Homework assignments will be discussed in each class session.

All written assignments should be typed, double-spaced and cited using APA or MLA style if sources are used.

Course Content

The course is divided into the following content sections:

1. Re-thinking History
2. Cultural Preservation
3. Religious, Economic and Political Freedom
4. Images of "Indians" Mascots and the Media