



Western Kentucky University

ANTH/FLK 345
Peoples and Cultures of Native North America
Spring, 2011
Online course

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Department of Folk Studies and Anthropology

Ivan Wilson Center for Fine Arts, Room 237

Office Hours: By appointment (by phone or online)

Course Description

Survey of the cultures of the original peoples of North America, with emphasis on the ethnographic present. Cross-listed as both ANT345 and FLK 345.

Course Objectives

This course fulfills a requirement for the Anthropology major and Folk Studies minor. After completing this course students will:

- understand Native American histories
- recognize the current social issues facing Native peoples today
- comprehend the complexity of the modern and historic relationship of Native Americans to the broader US culture
- recognize the cultural diversity between Native American groups
- develop critical thinking and writing skills

Required Readings

Sutton, Mark Q. 2008 **An Introduction to Native North America, 3rd Edition**. Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN -13: 978-0-205-51087-0

Grading Criteria

To pass the course you must have earned points, as follows:

A =530-477; B=476-424; C=423-371; D =370-318; F 317 or less

Assignment	Points
Chapter 1 Reading Quiz (January 28)	10
Chapter 2 Reading Quiz (February 4)	10
Chapter 13 Reading Quiz (February 11)	10
Chapter 3 Reading Quiz (February 18)	10
Chapter 4 Reading Quiz (February 25)	10
Chapter 5 Reading Quiz (March 4)	10
Reading Quizzes 1-5 & 13 Completed (March 5)	(Final Date)
Spring Break (March 7 to March 11)	Have Fun
Midterm Exam (March 19) [open March 14-19]	100
Chapter 6 Reading Quiz (March 25)	10
Chapter 7 Reading Quiz (April 1)	10
Chapter 8 Reading Quiz (April 8)	10
Chapter 9 Reading Quiz (April 15)	10
Chapter 10 Reading Quiz (April 22)	10
Written Assignment Due (April 27)	200
Chapter 11 Reading Quiz (April 29)	10
Chapter 12 Reading Quiz (May 6)	10
Reading Quizzes 6-12 Completed (May 7)	(Final Date)
Final Exam (May 12) [open May 9-12]	100
Total points	530

Requirement/Assignment Descriptions

Midterm Exam (100 points)

The mid-term exam will be comprised of fill-in-the-blank and multiple choice questions. You must complete the test by 11:00 P.M. (eastern time) on **March 19th**. You will only be allowed to take the exam one time (and will be forced to complete it once you open it) and you must be complete it within 1 hour and 15 minutes or you will lose 2 points for every 5 minutes you exceed that time.

Final Exam (100 points)

The final exam will be comprised of 100 multiple choice questions. The final is comprehensive and will consist of approximately 40% material from before the midterm and 60% material from after the midterm. You must complete the exam by 11:00 P.M. (eastern time) on **May 12th**. You will only be allowed to take the exam one time (and will be forced to complete it once you open it) and you must be complete it within 2 hours or you will lose 2 points for every 5 minutes you exceed that time.

Make-up exams: Tests can be made up if you are granted an excused absence (see **Policy** section).

Non-Exam Assignments:

Students are required to complete assignments by the due dates/times specified. The grade is based upon both quality and quantity. Did you complete the class assignments? What was the quality of your work, i.e., were the responses complete and correct?

Reading Quizzes (10 points each – total 130 points)

A multiple choice, fill-in-the blank reading quiz is required for each chapter of the book. The quizzes will alert you to the material that I think is most important for that chapter and the Power Points and are open-book. Ideally you should be reading a chapter each week and completing the quizzes on the due date listed in parentheses in the above assignment list. However, there is some flexibility on when you take these quizzes, though all the quizzes for Chapters 1-5 and 13 must be completed by **March 5th** and all the quizzes for Chapters 8-12 must be completed by **May 7th**.

Writing Assignment – Contemporary Native News (200 points)

This writing assignment requires you follow contemporary Native American news for 10 weeks and reflect on your chosen articles. I want you to think about how modern Native Americans survive in modern day America. Do they have any unique challenges or benefits that result from their being part of an indigenous community. How does their own history and past relationships with the US and/or Canadian governments influence their modern existence and governance.

This assignment has two parts. First, you are required to read one article from a Native American news source each week for 10 weeks and write 1-2 paragraphs (minimum 200 words) reflecting on your chosen article each week for a total of ten weekly reflections. Paste a link to the document at the beginning of your corresponding written reflection and compile them in a single document (make sure the link is a permanent link to the story, the easiest way to receive a permalink is to email the story to yourself and paste the link emailed to you at the beginning of your written reflection). After ten weeks, write a summary of what you have learned about that country that you did not know before (**minimum requirements: three, double-spaced, typewritten pages with 1” margins and 12 pt. Font [New Times Roman]**). **The final writing packet, including the 10 weekly reflections and the final 3page reflection, is due April 27th by 11:00 P.M (eastern time).**

You will be graded on the insight and observations you make about each of the articles you read, along with the observations you make in the final two-page summary. **Your writing will also be graded for clarity and correct grammar.** You are encouraged to demonstrate linkages between what you have learned about Native Americans and other Anthropological concepts discussed in this course.

Native American Online New Sources (feel free to choose other sources but email me them to get approval first)

<http://www.indiancountrytoday.com/>

<http://www.indiancountrynews.com/>

<http://www.charkoosta.com/>

<http://www.cherokeeobserver.org/>

<http://www.indianz.com/>

<http://lakotacountrytimes.com/>

<http://www.nunatsiaq.com/>

<http://www.reznetnews.org/>

<http://www.firstperspective.ca/>

<http://www.navajotimes.com/>

<http://www.nativetimes.com/>

Late work: Late work is accepted only if the student is granted an excused absence. Under no circumstances may more than two excused absences be granted during the semester.

Attendance Policy

The University attendance policy states that “registration in a course obligates the student to be regular and punctual in class attendance” (WKU 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog, p. 20; emphasis added). In addition, if an instructor “determines that a student’s absenteeism is inconsistent with the instructor’s stated policy” the instructor may “request that the Academic Advising and Retention Center arrange a counseling session with the student” (WKU 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog, p. 20).

As this is an online class I will not be taking daily attendance but you are required to check Blackboard at least once a week and to complete assignments by the due dates listed above. If you are unable to complete an assignment by the due date will only be permitted to submit late work if the absence is considered excused using the following criteria.

Excused Absences include:

- illness of the student or serious illness of student's immediate family
- death of a member of student's immediate family
- trips as members of student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, including field trips for other classes and athletic events
- major religious holiday (student must notify instructor in writing no later than the last day for adding a class)
- jury duty
- military deployments
- Any other circumstance that the instructor finds reasonable cause for non-attendance.

If an absence is unexcused, the student is not allowed to make up missed work.

Students who, without previous arrangement with the instructor or department, fail to attend the first two class meetings of a course meeting multiple times per week or the first meeting of a class that meets one time per week may be dropped from the course [by the instructor]; however, students are responsible for officially dropping any course for which they have enrolled” (WKU 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog, p. 20).

According to university policy, students who stop attending class BEFORE the 60% point of the semester will be assigned an FN grade. Students receiving federal financial aid and receiving an FN grade may be required to return all or a portion of the financial aid.

“Excessive absenteeism may result in the instructor’s dismissing the student from class and recording a failing grade, unless the student officially withdraws from the class before the withdrawal deadline” (WKU 2009-2010 Undergraduate Catalog, p. 20). If a student doesn’t attend class, doesn’t satisfactorily complete the course requirements, and doesn’t withdraw by the scheduled date, I will drop that student from the class or assign a failing (F or FN) grade.

Make-up and Late Work Policy

Mid-Term Exam: The mid-term test can be made up if you are granted an excused absence.

Final Exam: The final exam can be made up if you are granted an excused absence but will result in an “ I ” grade for this semester until the exam is completed

Reading Quizzes: Reading quizzes can only be made up if you are granted an excused absence.

Writing Assignment: No late final paper will be accepted.

Syllabus Modification

The printed syllabus distributed by the instructor is the official contract with students in this course.

Information in the printed syllabus supersedes information on any electronic versions of the syllabus.

The instructor reserves the right to modify anything in the printed syllabus, with prior warning via an in-class announcement, during the course of the semester. Students are responsible for being apprised of any such modifications and for recording such modifications on their syllabi.