

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY (HIST 3367) - SPRING 2012

TR, 9:30-10:50am, PKH 211

Instructor: Dr. Kimberly Breuer

Office: UH 324

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 11-12

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The history of North American (modern Canada, the United States and Mexico) Indians from pre-history to the late 20th century, with particular focus on the period of initial European contact and the colonial period.

CLASS PREREQUISITES: No special requirements or prerequisites

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Townsend and Nicholas, *First Americans*
- Hamalainen, *The Comanche Empire*
- Smith and Warrior, *Like A Hurricane*

CLASS FORMAT: This is a blended course, meaning that some elements of this class are online in Blackboard. This course utilizes primary sources, film, classroom discussion and active/team based learning in addition to traditional lectures. I prefer a lively classroom where students feel free to ask questions and express their ideas and opinions, however, I ask that students maintain proper classroom etiquette. Students should come to class fully prepared.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (Course Objectives): Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify key events, peoples, individuals, terms, periodizations and chronology of the history of North American Indians.
- demonstrate awareness of the basic geography associated with North American Indians.
- develop analytical skills by scrutinizing primary source documents
- develop critical thinking skills by discussing the living nature of history, critiquing different interpretations of the same events and explaining how the manipulation of the past can provide insights into later periods.
- synthesize diverse historical information on broad themes of American Indian history and present this information in coherent, well-articulated and well-substantiated discussions, essays and other written work

ASSIGNMENTS, ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade for this course will be based upon 400 quality points. Your semester grade is based upon testing (30%); projects (40%); and participation (30%)

Grade Scale: A =400-360; B = 320-359; C = 280-319; D = 240-279; F = 239 and below

QUIZZES

There is a midterm and final in this course. The tests consist of multiple choice, short answer, basic geography questions and an essay. Each quiz is worth up to 60 points (or 15% of your semester grade).

PROJECTS

There are two projects in this course, an Encounters Project and a Biography Project. Each project will require a bit of research beyond the textbook to complete the assignment. Students will be able to choose their own topic within the parameters of the assignment. Each project consists of an information sheet and a 2-3 page essay. Each project is worth up to 80 points each (or 20% of the grade)

PARTICIPATION

This class utilizes Team Based Learning. In team based learning students are assigned to a team which will participate in in-class assignments throughout the semester (no work is done outside of class except for assigned class prep readings). Students will take an individual and team readiness assessment prior to participating the assignment for the day. Participation is worth up to 30% of the grade. I will consult with the class about the distribution of points between the individual and team readiness tests and the application exercises.

CLASS OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS: - Can be found in the online Course Module.

CLASS CALENDAR: Can be found in the online Course Module

CLASS POLICIES AND INFORMATION - The Fine Print

A Respectful Learning Environment: It is the goal of the Department of History and the College of Liberal Arts to create and maintain a respectful learning environment. The official policy concerning communications within this course is stated below:

"When contacting your instructor via email, remember to construct your messages both respectfully and carefully (be as specific as possible with your questions). In this course, as with any other UTA course, your communication with fellow students and faculty should be the utmost professional. When communicating with your peers and instructor, there will be NO discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, ideology, political affiliation, veteran status, age, physical handicap, or marital status. Keep in mind that instructors reserve the right to manage a positive learning environment and thus will not tolerate inappropriate conduct in the course. All UTA students are responsible for behaving in a manner consistent with UTA's Standard Code of Conduct. Students violating these codes will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct."

Participation Policy: Regular classroom participation is required and comprises 30% of the semester grade.

Drop Policy: I urge you to consult with me before dropping this course, you might be doing better than See your advisor for information before dropping. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY DROPPED FOR NON-ATTENDANCE.

E-Mail Policy: The University email address is the official means of communication with students. ***I require all students to check their UTA email account frequently.***

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodation" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing me of your needs at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of UTA that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. I take scholastic dishonesty very seriously – if the excerpt below is unclear, see me. I consider copying directly from the text or internet sites without proper citation as plagiarism. If in doubt, cite. I do not give credit for plagiarized assignments or cheating on exams and I will refer plagiarism to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)

I expect all students to adhere to the UTA Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Student Support Services Available: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

BOTTOM LINE: If you feel that you are falling behind, need help in writing or have any other difficulty with this course, please see/contact me right away and I will attempt to help you myself or direct you to available resources. Don't just flounder along, seek aid while there is still time to get a higher grade.