HIST 469/569
American Indian History
Topic: Native Nations and U.S.
Winter 2011
Professor: Jeff Ostler
Class Hours: 4:00-5:20 MW
Office Hours: 1:00-3:00 R
or by appointment
301 McKenzie Hall

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the position of Native Nations within the United States from the origins of the United States to the present. On one hand, Native Nations were sovereign entities prior to the U.S. and have continued to remain sovereign peoples. On the other hand, U.S. Americans’ economic priorities and ideas about Indians have generally worked against a full recognition of Native sovereignty and its practical exercise by Native communities. The course will explore this fundamentally contradictory position over time and analyze its consequences.

Readings:

The following required readings are available for purchase in the Duck Shop, formerly known at the University of Oregon Bookstore, and are also on reserve.


There are also several required articles and excerpts from books (list appended) available under “course documents” on Blackboard.

Requirements:

1. Periodic “pop quizzes” about the readings (20%)

2. A take-home midterm. Due in class on Feb. 7 (20%)

3. A six-page paper on a Native Nation of your choice and its relationship to a particular issue to be chosen from a list to be provided. Due on Thursday, March 17 at 5:00 p.m. (30%)

4. A comprehensive final exam. Monday, March 14, from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. (30%)

Note: Graduate students in HIST 569 have separate requirements and should talk with the instructor during the first week of class.
Schedule:

Week 1:
1/3: Introduction

1/5: Vanishing Indians and the sovereignty of Native Nations
Reading: Wilkins; Berkhoffer

Week 2:
1/10: Foundations: U.S. policies, 1783-1820s
Reading: Wallace

1/12: Native strategies: prophetic resistance, migration, accommodation
Reading: Calloway

Week 3:
1/17: No Class

1/19: Removals/"Discovery doctrine" and "Domestic dependent nations"
Reading: Perdue & Green; excerpts from *Cherokee Nation v. State of Georgia* and
*Worcester v. Georgia*; Wilkins and Lomawaima (selection 1)

Week 4:
1/24: Race
Reading: Miles

1/26: Manifest destiny and treaties
Reading: Fisher

Week 5:
1/31: The "peace policy" and war
Reading: Ostler

2/2: End of treaty making/coercive assimilation
Reading: Edmunds, et al. (selection 1); Lomawaima

Week 6:
2/7: The Indians’ *Dred Scott* decision
Reading: Wilkins and Lomawaima (selection 2)
TAKE HOME MID-TERM DUE

2/9: Cultural pluralism
Reading: Stocking
Week 7:
2/14: Wilderness, Boy Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls
Reading: Spence, Deloria (Playing Indian)

2/16: Citizenship
Reading: Bruyneel

Week 8:
2/21: Oil and automobiles
Reading: Deloria (Unexpected Places); Harmon

2/23: Indian New Deal and War
Reading: Edmunds, et al. (selection 2); Weisiger; Townsend

Week 9:
2/28: Termination, Red Power, and Self-determination
Reading: Wilkinson, chapters 1-12

3/2: Environmentalism
Reading: Lewis

Week 10:

3/7: Federal recognition
Reading: TBA

3/9: Casinos
Wilkinson, chapter 13; Cattelino

Final exam: Monday, March 14, 3:15-5:15

Paper due: Thursday, March 17, 5:00
List of Readings (posted on Blackboard)
for HIST 469, Topic: Native Nations and U.S.


