

# *Native North Americans: Anthropology 232*

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NSH 109: MWF 9:00-9:50  
Office + hours: SSH 111  
Monday 2:00, Thursday 9:00

## **Course Description:**

Focuses on Native American cultures and their ancestors in prehistoric, historic, and contemporary contexts. Anthropological evidence, including archaeology and ethnography, and indigenous evidence, including customs and oral histories and traditions, are used to create holistic perspectives about both early Native American cultures and cultures today. Later changes resulting from contact, westernization, and assimilation are investigated.

## **Course Learning Outcomes:**

- Define and critically consider the primary continental migration theories, and realize the interconnectedness of cultural development and change and environmental adaptation.
  - Explore and analyze the scientific theories of origins
- Synthesize knowledge of Native American culture in regard to scientific theories.
- Define the special relationship that exist between Native Americans and United States government, the origins of the relationship, and problems maintaining the relationship for the past several hundred years.
- Describe similarities and differences between cultures and apply the anthropological approach of cultural relativism.

## **Course Content & Instruction**

Due to the ongoing histories/experiences of settler-colonial violence, racism, dispossession, and genocide that frame both the colonization of the Americas and Indigenous responses to it, this course will openly engage these and related issues without censorship. If content makes attendance and participation difficult, please do not hesitate to speak with the instructor to make alternative arrangements

## **Instructor Philosophy**

One of my primary goals in teaching anthropology is to enable my students to develop appropriate tools to be able to engage and employ them both in and out of the classroom. As anthropologists we fully understand that the condition of being a human is that we have to understand the meaning of our

experience. In the context of learning anthropology in the classroom, it is vital for students to viscerally learn to make their own interpretations rather than act on the purpose, beliefs, and judgments of others. Facilitating such an understanding is the pinnacle of my teaching philosophy. In other words, it is my hope and expectation that this course will help you create your own ideas and opinions about cultural phenomenon, particularly about your own culture.

Take responsibility for your own learning and participating in class discussions is what makes this course enjoyable!

### **Required Textbook:**

Dunbar-Ortiz, R. (2014). Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States. Beacon Press.

### **Course Rules and Classroom Culture:**

*Student Conduct:* The discipline of Anthropology requires us to explore the lives of others as well as our own. This means that certain topics can be sensitive at times and we have to act with the utmost respect for one another. The classroom must remain a safe space for us to explore our thoughts and learn. You will be expected and held to a high standard to conduct yourself in an honest, professional, and ethical manner at all times.

### **Technology Statement**

\*Laptops have been consistently proven to be a distraction in class for the students using them, other students, and the instructor. Use of a laptop or other technological device are solely permitted after discussing this need with your instructor.

**\*Late Assignment Policy:** Please complete your work on time. Each day an assignment is late, it will drop a letter grade.

\*The last possible day to submit late work in this course is Friday, November 30th. No assignments will be accepted after this date other than your final exam.

**Absences:** Attending all classes is correlated to student success. If you know you will be absent, communicate with your instructor prior to the absence and arrangements will be made. If you have an unexpected absence, please follow along with the class on the syllabus, contacting your instructor if you have any questions. *In-class writings can not be made up*. The films we watch in class are crucial to your participation in the course as well.

**Statement on Academic Dishonesty:** As a college student you will be held to the highest standards regarding academic integrity. Academic dishonesty includes: cheating (the intentional use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aids); fabrication (falsification or invention of any information); assisting (helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty); tampering (altering or interfering with

evaluation instruments and documents); and plagiarism (intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own). At the discretion of the instructor, engaging in academic dishonesty risks will absolutely result in a zero on the dishonest assignment and risks failing the entire course

***Students with Disabilities:*** Accommodations are a collaborative effort between students, faculty, and staff. You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if you have a documented disability and need accommodations. Your instructor needs to know this from you in order for you to best be accommodated. If you think you may need accommodation services please contact Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR): 541-917-4789. <https://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar>

***Basic Needs Statement:*** Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Single Stop Office for support (SinglestopatLBCC@linnbenton.edu , 541-917- 4877, or visit us on the web [www.linnbenton.edu](http://www.linnbenton.edu) under Student Support for Current Students). Our office can help students get connected to resources to help.

## **Course Requirements & Assignments**

**In-class writings** - These are writings that we will do in class and they cannot be made up.

**2 Film Assignments.** These films will be shown in class and the assignments are very straightforward with attendance and notetaking. I always encourage note taking during class as you are allowed to have your notebook open during all exams in this course. This is limited to note taking on paper and not a screen, however, unless you have a special need for accommodation that you have cleared with the instructor at the beginning of the course.

## **Group Teaching Project ~ Paleo-Contact**

This project is based on an article that will be provided to you on Canvas. In an effort to acquire as much knowledge about the regions as possible in a short time, there will be four articles assigned on the following areas:

- Native Peoples of the Northwest Coast
- Native Peoples of the Northeast
- Native Peoples of the Southwest
- Native Peoples of the Southeast
- Native Peoples of the Arctic
- Native Peoples of the Plateau
- Native Peoples of the Great Basin
- Native Peoples of California
- Native Peoples of the Plains

There will be some choice in which region you focus on, however, we can only have four people assigned to each region. You will read your article and present your findings to the group in the form of teaching. A rubric on how you will be graded will be provided to you. One of the criteria that is most fun and most difficult is “creativity in teaching” category. I encourage you to run with this. The text is by no means “fun” - but you can present the knowledge in any way you see fit. Students in the past have written poems, rap songs, brought visuals, use the whiteboard, use powerpoint on their computers, etc. We will discuss this in-depth in class.

**Book Quiz:** This is a cumulative book quiz that starts with the introduction and goes through chapter 8. This is solely on the textbook for our class, Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States by Dunbar-Ortiz. You will never be tested on details such as dates in history.

**Indigenous Poetry Projects ~ (Project # 1 due Wednesday, Week 5 Oct 24th + Project # 2 due Wednesday, Week 10, November 28th**

You will find an indigenous poem on your own. If you have any trouble finding literature, I have a list of resources to share. Choose a poem that you simply like or choose a poem that reflects on your learning.

In class you will be in groups of four and present the poem of your choice.

*Prepare the following:*

- Four copies of your poem (one for each group member)
- One page-typed, written reflection on your poem, including, but not limited to:
  - Why you chose this poem
  - What about this poem stuck out to you?
  - What does the poem mean?
  - Reflect on your learning in the course. What in our course relates to this poem?

**Research Teaching Project**

This is a similar format to your Group Teaching Project in that you will be teaching your classmates a ten minute peer-reviewed presentation. However, this will be on a research topic of your choice. I encourage you to think about your topic from the start of class and continuously narrow it down to one solid research question that you will set out to answer. You will see on the course calendar that this research question is due on Wednesday, November 14th in class and the actual project is not due until the following Monday. Here is an example of a topic that is great, but still needs to be narrowed down: “This project will examine the Iroquois nation in-depth”. Here is a topic that is ready to go: “This project will examine the colonial impact on the disenfranchisement of Iroquois women in the political sphere”. You get my point: be specific. I will help you with this and the librarian staff are ready to guide you with any sources you need to locate as they are aware of the project.

## Final Exam

We have November 30th (the last Friday of our class) reserved for final exam review and preparation for this.

## Course Calendar

\*Text = Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States (IPH)

\*\*Additional Readings all found on Canvas (CA)

\*\*\*Calendar subject to changes at instructor's discretion

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Week 1: Sept 24th	Introductions, Syllabus	Perspectives in Anthropology chapter due (CA)	Kalapuya reading due (CA) In-class writing
Week 2: Oct 1th	Film: "Reel Injun"	Finish film	Film assignment Intro & Ch. 1 due (IPH)
Week 3: Oct 8th	Indigenous Peoples Day!	Ch. 2 + 3 due (IPH)	Teaching Project due (Paleo-Contact)
Week 4: Oct 15th	Film: "Our Spirits Don't Speak English"	Finish film	Group Quiz on film
Week 5: Oct 22nd	Look ahead and prepare...	Native Poetry Project # 1	In-class writing Ch. 4 + 5 due (IPH)
Week 6: Oct 29th	Mohawk Interruptus reading due (CA)	Look ahead and prepare...	Book Quiz Ch. 6, 7, & 8 due (IPH)
Week 7: Nov 5th	Film: "Unnatural Causes"	Ch. 9 due (IPH)	Book Review due
Week 8: Nov 12th	LBCC closed for the holiday	Research Question due + Look ahead and prepare...	Ch. 10 + 11 due (IPH) In-class writing

Week 9: Nov 19th	Research Teaching Project due	Ch. 12 due (IPH)	LBCC closed for the holiday
Week 10: Nov 26th	Look ahead and prepare...	Native Poetry Project # 2	Final reflection

*\*Final Exam: Wednesday, December 5th: 10:00-11:50.*

### **Grades**

<b><u>Assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Possible Points</u></b>	<b><u>Keep track of your own grade</u></b>
In-class writings (Wk 1, 5, 8, 10)	5 points each X 4 = 20	
Film Reflection # 1	5	
Film Reflection # 2	5	
Poetry Project # 1	5	
Poetry Project # 2	5	
Group Teaching Project	10	
Research Teaching Project	10	
Book Quiz	10	
Book Review	15	
Final Exam	15	