

HST 697: American Indian History

Fall 2017
Tuesday, 3:30-6:20
135 Powers Hall

Dr. Michelle Cassidy
Office: 238A Powers Hall
Office Hours: Mondays, 10:30-12:00; Wednesdays, 9:30-12:00; and by appointment
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This course investigates trends in American Indian history and scholars' approaches to indigenous pasts. We will consider current scholarly frameworks that challenge the metanarratives of empires and North American nation-states (focusing mainly on the region within the current borders of the United States). While we cannot cover all indigenous peoples in one semester, readings have been chosen to introduce diverse experiences, as well as highlight innovative methods and interpretations.

Requirements

1. All "**common readings**" listed are required reading. As in all graduate courses, informed and respectful participation is required.
2. One **3-4 page review essay** and one **6-8 page review essay**. Potential books for review are included in the class schedule ("Review Books"). These books widen the methodological and topical scope of readings discussed in class. The review should reflect your own perspective on the topic and book.

Reviewers will open each class by summarizing their papers, speaking for a maximum of 10 minutes. Also, when applicable, reviewer may wish to put their book in dialogue with the common readings to help broaden their classmates understanding of the historiography.

Due by 7 pm the Monday before class (on Blackboard).

2. **Discussion:** Each seminar member will lead discussion twice over the semester. Discussion leaders will raise interpretive, methodological, and thematic questions that will help structure our discussions. These questions (4-5 questions) need to be posted on Blackboard by **7 pm on Monday night**. When there are several discussants, feel free to collaborate and post a combined list of questions.
3. **State of the Field:** The main objectives of the course are to further develop analytical skills, critically engage with the secondary literature, and to understand some of the main methodological contributions and historiographical concerns in American Indian history. With that in mind, there are several options for the final paper. All of them engage with the field of American Indian history or a particular theme/topic within the field.

Choose One:

a) *Mock Comprehensive Exam Questions*: You may submit a question of your own choosing, and, if I approve, answer that question as well as one I provide. Or, you may answer two of my questions.

b) *Research Prospectus*: If you are thinking of doing research in the field of American Indian history, this might be a useful option. Expectations are similar to a standard prospectus but with an emphasis on the literature review, how the research would fit into the field, and also a developed section on the methodological framework. This is not a research seminar so the section on primary sources and the thesis will not need to be as fully developed as the literature review and understanding of methodology.

c) *Annotated Syllabus*: Design a syllabus for an undergraduate course on American Indian history. This course can have a certain theme (gender, environmental history, a particular region or time period, etc.) or it can be a survey course. The syllabus needs to be annotated. For example, annotations would explain what would be covered in lecture, reasons for choosing particular readings, and the thought process behind assignments. A successful syllabus demonstrates an understanding of some of the important themes in American Indian history and an attempt to translate the field's contributions to undergraduates. This assignment could be modified for high school course design, but you would need to get your ideas approved by me before completing the syllabus.

Evaluation	% of grade
Active Participation	15
3-4 page review essay	15
6-8 page review essay	20
Leading Discussion (twice)	20
Final Project	30

Objectives

In this course, you will:

- analyze and assess scholars' methodologies and their interpretations of indigenous pasts
- explore major themes in American Indian historiography
- consider ethnohistory and the ways American Indian history is an interdisciplinary field
- formulate an informed interpretive stance on one of the major topics in American Indian history
- further develop analytical writing skills

CMU provides students with disabilities reasonable accommodations to participate in educational programs, activities or services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodations to participate in class activities or meet course requirements should register for services through [Student Disability Services](#), 120 Park Library, 989-774-3018. After seeing SDS, please talk to me in office hours or after class to discuss accommodations.

Required Books

1. Michael Witgen, *An Infinity of Nations: How the Native New World Shaped Early North America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013). 978-0812222869
2. Allan Greer, *Mohawk Saint: Catherine Tekakwitha and the Jesuits* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006). 978-0195309348
3. Andrew Lipman, *The Saltwater Frontier: Indians and the Contest for the American Coast* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015). 978-0300227024
4. Juliana Barr, *Peace Came in the Form of a Woman: Indians and Spaniards in the Texas Borderlands* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2007). 978-0807857908
5. Pekka Hämäläinen, *Comanche Empire* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008). 978-0300151176
6. Margaret Ellen Newell, *Brethren by Nature: New England Indians, Colonists, and the Origins of American Slavery* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2015). 978-1501705731
7. Tiya Miles, *Ties that Bind: The Story of an Afro-Cherokee Family in Slavery and Freedom* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2015). 978-0520285637
8. Gregory Dowd, *Groundless: Rumors, Legends, and Hoaxes on the Early American Frontier* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015). 978-1421418650
9. Karl Jacoby, *Shadows at Dawn: An Apache Massacre and the Violence of History* (New York: Penguin Books, 2008). 978-0143116219
10. Jean M. O'Brien, *Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2010). 978-0816665785
11. Scott Lyons, *X-Marks* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2010). 978-0816666775
12. Phil Deloria, *Indians in Unexpected Places* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2004). 978-0700614592
13. Malinda Maynor Lowery, *Lumbee Indians in the Jim Crow South: Race, Identity, and the Making of a Nation* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2010). 978-0807871119
14. Brian Klopotek, *Recognition Odysseys: Indigeneity, Race, and Federal Tribal Recognition Policy in Three Indian Communities* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2011). 978-0822349846

Class Schedule:

August 29: What is Indian History? Ethnohistory?

Common Reading

Daniel K. Richter, "Whose Indian History?" *William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 50, no. 2 (April 1993), 379-393.

James H. Merrell, "Second Thoughts on Colonial Historians and American Indians," *William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 69, No. 3 (July 2012), 451-512.

No reviews this week

September 5: The Middle Ground, Native New World, and Anishinaabewaki

Common Reading

Michael Witgen, *An Infinity of Nations: How the Native New World Shaped Early North America*

Review Books

Richard White, *The Middle Ground: Indians, Empires, and Republics in the Great Lakes Region, 1650-1815* (1991)

Kathleen Duval, *The Native Ground: Indians and Colonists in the Heart of the Continent* (2005)

Alan Taylor, *The Divided Ground: Indians, Settlers, and the Northern Borderland of the American Revolution* (2006)

Michael McDonnell, *Masters of Empire: Great Lakes Indians and the Making of America* (2015)

Bethel Saler, *The Settlers' Empire: Colonialism and State Formation in America's Old Northwest* (2015)

Brett Rushforth, *Bonds of Alliance: Indigenous & Atlantic Slaveries in New France* (2012)

September 12: "Ethnographic Imagination" and the Gendered Landscape of Mission Work

Common Reading

Allan Greer, *Mohawk Saint: Catherine Tekakwitha and the Jesuits*

Review Books

Rachel Wheeler, *To Live Upon Hope: Mohicans and Missionaries in the Eighteenth Century Northeast* (2008)

Carol Devens, *Countering Colonization: Native American Women and Great Lakes Missions, 1630-1900* (1992)

Karen Anderson, *Chain her by One Foot: The Subjugation of Native Women in Seventeenth-Century New France* (1991)

Susan Sleeper-Smith, *Indian Women and French Men: Rethinking Cultural Encounter in the Western Great Lakes* (2001)

Tracy Neal Leavelle, *The Catholic Calumet: Colonial Conversions in French and Indian North America* (2011)

Gregory Evans Dowd, *A Spirited Resistance: The North American Indian Struggle for Unity, 1745-1815* (1992)

September 19: Borderlands, Oceans, and Indigenous Seafaring

Common Reading

Andrew Lipman, *The Saltwater Frontier: Indians and the Contest for the American Coast*

Review Books

David Chang, *The World and all the Things Upon It* (2016)

Jace Weaver, *The Red Atlantic: American Indigenes and the Making of the Modern World, 1000-1927* (2014)

Coll Thrush, *Indigenous London: Native Travelers as the Heart of Empire* (2016)

Nancy Shoemaker, *Native American Whalers and the World: Indigenous Encounters and the Contingency of Race* (2015)

Joshua Reid, *The Sea is my Country: The Maritime World of the Makahs* (2015)

Jean M. O'Brien, *Dispossession by Degrees: Indian Land and Identity in Natick, Massachusetts, 1650-1790* (1997)

Colin Calloway, *New Worlds for All: Indians, Europeans, and the Remaking of Early America* (1997)

Daniel Richter, *Facing East from Indian Country* (2001)

September 26: Power, Gender, and Borderlands

Common Reading

Juliana Barr, *Peace Came in the Form of a Woman: Indians and Spaniards in the Texas Borderlands* (2007)

Review Books

Theda Perdue, *Cherokee Women: Gender and Culture Change, 1700-1835* (1998)

Brenda Child, *Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of Community* (2012)

Ramon Gutierrez, *When Jesus Came, the Com Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sexuality, and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846* (1991)

Sylvia Van Kirk, *Many Tender Ties: Women in Fur-Trade Society, 1670-1870* (1980)

Jennifer Brown, *Strangers in Blood: Fur Trade Company Families in Indian Country* (1996)

Gunlog Fur, *A Nation of Women: Gender and Colonial Encounters Among the Delaware-Indians* (2009)

Lucy Eldersveld Murphy, *A Gathering of Rivers: Indians, Metis, and Mining in the Western Great Lakes, 1737-1832* (2000)

Catherine J. Denial, *Making Marriage: Husbands, Wives & the American State in Dakota & Ojibwe Country* (2013)

October 3: Empires

Common Readings

Pekka Hämäläinen, *Comanche Empire* (2008)

Review Books

Brian DeLay, *War of a Thousand Desserts: Indian Raids and the U.S.-Mexican War* (2008)

Richard White, *The Roots of Dependency: Subsistence, Environment, and Social Change*

among the Choctaws, Pawnees, and Navajos (1983)
John Ryan Fischer, *Cattle Colonialism: An Environmental History of the Conquest of California and Hawai'i* (2015)
William Cronon, *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (1984)
Virginia DeJohn Anderson, *Creatures of Empire: How Domestic Animals Transformed Early America* (2004)

October 10: Slavery

Common Readings

Margaret Ellen Newell, *Brethren by Nature: New England Indians, Colonists, and the Origins of American Slavery* (2015)

Review Books

Alan Galloway, *The Indian Slave Trade: The Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717* (2002)
Christina Snyder, *Slavery in Indian Country: The Changing Face of Captivity in Early America* (2010)
James Brooks, *Captives & Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands* (2002)
Andrés Reséndez, *The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America* (2016)

October 17: Slavery, Nations, and Family Histories

Common Reading

Tiya Miles, *Ties that Bind: The Story of an Afro-Cherokee Family in Slavery and Freedom* (2006)

Review Books

Claudio Saunt, *Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family* (2005)
Tiya Miles, *House on Diamond Hill: A Cherokee Plantation Story* (2010)
Barbara Krauthamer, *Black Slaves, Indian Masters: Slavery, Emancipation, and Citizenship in the Native American South* (2013)
Theda Perdue, *Slavery and the Evolution of Cherokee Society, 1540-1866* (1979)

October 24: The Power of Rumors

Common Reading

Gregory Evans Dowd, *Groundless: Rumors, Legends, and Hoaxes on the Early American Frontier*

Review Books

Peter Silver, *Our Savage Neighbors: How Indian War Transformed Early America* (2007)
James Merrell, *Into the American Woods: Negotiators on the Pennsylvania Frontier* (1999)
Nancy Shoemaker, *A Strange Likeness: Becoming Red and White in Eighteenth-Century North America* (2006)

Alejandra Dubcovsky, *Informed Power: Communication in the Early American South* (2016)
Phillip Round, *Removable Type: Histories of the Book in Indian Country, 1663-1880* (2010)

October 31: The Violence of History

Common Reading

Karl Jacoby, *Shadows at Dawn: An Apache Massacre and the Violence of History* (2008)

Review Books

Boyd Cothran, *Remembering the Modoc War: Redemptive Violence and the Making of American Innocence* (2014)

Ari Kelman, *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling over the Memory of Sand Creek* (2015)

Ned Blackhawk, *Violence Over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West* (2006)

Keith Basso, *Wisdom Sits in Places: Landscape and Language Among the Western Apache* (1996)

John Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive: A Family Story of Early America* (1994)

November 7: The Disappearing Indian, Representations, and the Writing of History

Common Reading

Jean M. O'Brien, *Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians out of Existence in New England* (2010)

Review Books

Stephen Conn, *History's Shadow: Native Americans and Historical Consciousness in the Nineteenth Century* (2004)

Jill Lepore, *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity* (1998)

Phil Deloria, *Playing Indian* (1998)

Richard Slotkin, *Regeneration Through Violence: the Mythology of the American Frontier, 1600-1860* (2000)

Brian W. Dippie, *The Vanishing American: White Attitudes and U.S. Indian Policy* (1991)

Gordon Sayer, *The Indian Chief as Tragic Hero: Native Resistance and the Literatures of America, from Moctezuma to Tecumseh* (2005)

Reginald Horsman, *Race and Manifest Destiny: Origins of American Racial AngloSaxonism* (1986)

Robert F. Berkhofer, *The White Man's Indian: Images of the American Indian, from Columbus to the Present* (1979)

November 14: Native American Studies vs. History

Common Reading

Scott Lyons, *X-Marks* (2010)

Review Books

Charles Wilkinson, *Blood Struggle: The Rise of Modern Indian Nations* (2005)

David Wilkins, *American Indian Sovereignty and the U.S. Supreme Court: The making of Justice* (1997)

- David Wilkins and K. Tsianina Lomawaima, *Uneven Ground: American Indian Sovereignty and Federal Law* (2001)
- Deborah Rosen, *American Indians and State Law: Sovereignty, Race, and Citizenship, 1790-1880* (2007)
- Robert A. Williams, Jr. *Like a Loaded Weapon: The Rehnquist Court, Indian Rights and the Legal History of Racism in America* (2005)
- Mark Rifkin, *When did Indians Become Straight? Kinship, the History of Sexuality and Native Sovereignty* (2011)
- Audra Simpson, *Mohawk Interruptus: Political Live Across the Borders of Settler States* (2014)
- Frederick Hoxie, *Parading Through History: The Making of the Crow Nation in America, 1805-1935* (1995)

November 21: Stereotypes, the Making of Modernity, and Cultural History

Common Reading

Phil Deloria, *Indians in Unexpected Places* (2004)

Review Books

- David Wallace Adams, *Education for Extinction: American Indians and the Boarding School Experience, 1875-1928*, (1995)
- Brenda J. Child, *Boarding School Seasons: American Indian Families, 1900-1940* (1993)
- Michael C. Coleman, *American Indian Children at School, 1850-1930* (1993)
- Clyde Ellis, *To Change Them Forever; Indian Education at the Rainy Mountain Boarding School, 1893-1920* (1996)
- Donal F. Lindsey, *Indians at Hampton Institute 1877-1923* (1995)
- Robert Trennert, *The Phoenix Indian School, Forced Assimilation in Arizona, 1891-1935* (1988)
- Amanda J. Cobb, *Listening to our Grandmothers' Stories; The Bloomfield Academy for Chickasaw Females, 1852-1949* (2000)
- Andrew Woolford, *This Benevolent Experiment: Indigenous Boarding Schools, Genocide, and Redress in Canada and the United States* (2015)
- K. Tsianina Lomawaima, *They Called It Prairie Light: The Story of the Chilocco Indian School* (1995)
- Paul Chaat Smith and Robert Allen Warrior, *Like a Hurricane: The Indian Movement from Alcatraz to Wounded Knee* (1996)
- Susan Sleeper Smith, ed. *Contesting Knowledge: Museums and Indigenous Perspectives* (2009)

November 28: Kinship, Identities, and Race

Common Reading

Malinda Maynor Lowery, *Lumbee Indians in the Jim Crow South: Race, Identity, and the Making of a Nation* (2010)

Review Books

- Frederick E. Hoxie, *A Final Promise: The Campaign to Assimilate the Indians, 1880-1920* (1984)
- Donald Fixico, *Termination and Relocation: Federal Indian Policy, 1845-1960*

(1986)

Lorenzo Veracini, *Settler Colonialism: A Theoretical Overview* (2010)

Walter Hixson, *American Settler Colonialism: A History* (2013)

Melissa Meyer, *The White Earth Tragedy: Ethnicity and Dispossession at a Minnesota Anishinaabe Reservation* (1994)

Brian Hosmer, *American Indians in the Marketplace: Persistence and Innovation Among the Menominees and Metlakatans, 1870-1920* (2000)

Donald Fixico, *The Invasion of Indian Country in the Twentieth Century: American Capitalism and Tribal Natural Resources* (1998)

Noenoe K. Silva, *Aloha Betrayed: Native Hawaiian Resistance to American Colonialism* (2004)

Edmund Jefferson Danziger, Jr., *Survival and Regeneration: Detroit's American Indian Community* (1991)

Larry Nesper, *The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights* (2002)

Marsha Weisiger, *Dreaming of Sheep in Navajo Country* (2011)

December 5: Recognition and the Politics of Settler Colonialism

Common Reading

Brian Klopotek, *Recognition Odysseys: Indigeneity, Race, and Federal Tribal Recognition Policy in Three Indian Communities* (2011)

No Reviews or Discussion Leaders

December 15th Final Paper Due