HIST 2018: NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY, C. 1450-1814



Instructor: Strother Roberts

Meeting Time: Tu/Th 10:00-11:25 Email: seroberts@bowdoin.edu Room: Searles 115 Office Hours: W 8-11 & by appt

Course Description: The indigenous peoples of North America have a long and diverse history (histories, really) stretching back at least 15,000 years. Since European explorers first united the world's two hemispheres at the turn of the sixteenth century, native communities have faced numerous challenges and fallen victim to often unimaginable hardship. Native cultures showed amazing adaptability in the face of these challenges: embracing the opportunities of new trade networks, incorporating new religious ideas and economic strategies with older practices, and welcoming newcomers from Europe and Africa into their own communities. Through centuries of imperial oppression, American Indians proved tenacious in fighting for their rights and insisting on their proper place in an evolving environmental, political, and social landscape. This survey of North American Indian history traces how these shared struggles led to a dawning sense of a pan-Indian racial and cultural identity in the early nineteenth century.

Assignments:

Very Short Assignments (VSAs) - One paragraph responses to the day's readings. 2-3 questions on each day's readings will be posted online to help direct you in writing these responses and to stimulate thought for in-class discussion. VSAs will be due by 8:00am before each class session. (Exceptions: Aug 31, Sept 5, Sept 19, Sept 26, Oct 5, Nov 2.) Please post your VSAs to Blackboard.

Primary Source Analysis Paper (Hakluyt Paper) - 3-5 double-spaced pages analyzing the themes contained in the primary source passage and explaining how it could be used by historians.

Three Papers – TWO PAGES (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt. font) answering a question to be given a week prior to their due date

Final Paper $-\approx 10$ pages of short identifications and essay(s)

Grading:

VSAs 10%; Primary Source Analysis Paper 10%; Three 2 page assignments each worth 15%; One 8-10 page final paper worth 25%; Participation 10%

Attendance:

You will not receive any credit directly for attendance, but more than three unexcused absences will result in the loss of a full letter grade in the course. Five unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the course.

Multimedia: I will start many of my lectures with a brief film clip from a movie or television program that relates to that day's theme. These clips will be posted to Blackboard. Keep in mind how each clip depicts Native American culture and history and, as the course progresses, think about what these depictions can tell us about how Euro-American society of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries have viewed modern Native Americans and their historical contributions.

Required Texts:

- 1. Julie A. Fisher and David J. Silverman, *Ninigret, Sachem of the Niantics and Narragansets: Diplomacy, War, and the Balance of Power in Seventeenth-Century New England and Indian Country* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2014)
- 2. All readings labeled "DOCUMENTS" below will be handed out for in-class discussion
- 3. All other readings will be available online through Blackboard

WEEK 1: Introduction

Aug 31: Welcome to Class

• Donald L. Fixico, "Ethics and Responsibilities in Writing American Indian History," *American Indian Quarterly* 20, no. 1 (Winter 1996), 29-39 [≈10 pages]

WEEK 2: Native America

Sept 5: Origin Stories

- Tim Flannery, *The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America and its Peoples* (New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2011), 173-205. [≈30 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Creation Stories [≈4 pages]

Sept 7: One Continent, Many Cultures

- Bruce G. Trigger, "Early Native North American Responses to European Contact," *The Journal of American History* 77, no. 4 (Mar. 1991) 1195-1215 [≈20 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Columbus & Cortes [≈ 4 pages]

WEEK 3: Contact

Sept 12: Populations & Ecologies

- Alfred Crosby, *Germs*, *Seeds*, & *Animals: Studies in Ecological History* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 1994), ix-27, 45-61 [≈50 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Smallpox [≈4 pages]

Sept 14: Europeans in a Native American World

- James Axtell, "Imagining the Other: First Encounters," in *Natives and Newcomers: The Cultural Origins of North America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), 15-45 [≈30 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Theories of Indian Origins [≈3 pages]

WEEK 4: The Spanish Challenge

Sept 19: First Conquests in the Indies

• Richard Hakluyt, "Miles Philips Put On Shore in the West Indies," in Jack Beeching, ed., *Voyages and Discoveries: Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques & Discoveries of the English Nation* (London: Penguin, 1972), 132-157 [≈25 pages]

Sept 21: MesoAmerica

- Patricia R. Anawalt, "Understanding Aztec Human Sacrifice," *Archaeology* 35, no. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1982), 38-45 [≈7 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Bernal Diaz on Aztec Sacrifice & Auto de [≈3 pages]

WEEK 5: Forging New Connections

Sept 25: *HAKLUYT PAPER DUE*

Sept 26: Building a Mestizo Empire

- Pekka Hämäläinen, "The Politics of Grass: European Expansion, Ecological Change, and Indigenous Power in the Southwest Borderlands," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 67, no. 2 (April 2010), 173-208. [≈35 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Pueblo Revolt [≈5 pages]

Sept 28: Origins of Globalization

- Calvin Martin, *Keepers of the Game: Indian-Animal Relationships and the Fur Trade* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978), Prologue [≈25 pages]
- Calvin Martin, "The European Impact on the Culture of a Northeastern Algonquin Tribe," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 31, no.1 (Jan. 1974), 3-26. [≈25 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Fur Trade In the Northeast [≈2 pages]

WEEK 6: In the East

Oct 3: Powhatan and the Challenge of the English

- Neal Salisbury, "Squanto: Last of the Patuxet," in Ian Kenneth Steel and Nancy L. Rhoden, eds., *The Human Tradition in Colonial America* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1999), 21-35 [≈15 pages]
- Kathleen Brown, "In Search of Pocahontas," in Ian Kenneth Steel and Nancy L. Rhoden, eds., *The Human Tradition in Colonial America* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1999), 71-95 [≈25 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Powhatan & John Smith [≈2 pages]

Oct 5: TBD

WEEK 7: Time to Reflect & The Northeast, Part I

Oct 10: No Class: Columbus Day Observed "Fall Break"

Oct 12: New England: Sure, it's new, but is it really all that English?

- Julie A. Fisher and David J. Silverman, *Ninigret, Sachem of the Niantics and Narragansets: Diplomacy, War, and the Balance of Power in Seventeenth-Century New England and Indian Country* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2014), vii-54 [≈70 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: William Bradford on the Pequot War [≈1 page]

WEEK 8: Understanding One Another

Oct 17: Property, Gender, and Politics

- Nancy Shoemaker, *Strange Likeness: Becoming Red and White in Eighteenth-Century North America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006), 13-60, 105-125. [≈70 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: John Rolfe's Reasons for Marrying & Iroquois Lands [≈3 pages] Oct 19: Race and Religion
 - James Axtell, "The White Indians of Colonial America," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 32, no. 1 (Jan. 1975), 55-88 [≈30 pages]
 - Shoemaker, *Strange Likeness*, 125-144. [≈20 pages]
 - DOCUMENT: Samson Occum [≈2 pages]

Oct 20:*FIRST RESPONSE PAPER DUE *

WEEK 9: The Northeast, Parts II & III

Oct 24: The Northeast: War and Ambition

- Fisher and Silverman, *Ninigret*, 84-134 [≈50 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Animal Trespass & Report on Causes of King Philip's War [\approx 3 pages] Oct 26: Iroquoia
 - Daniel Richter, "War and Culture: The Iroquois Experience," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 40, no. 4 (Oct. 1983), 528-559 [≈30 pages]
 - DOCUMENTS: Iroquois Sachems at Albany, 1684 [≈2 pages]

WEEK 10: The West

Oct 31: Changes on the Plains

- Theodore Binnema, Common & Contested Ground: A Human and Environmental History of the Northwestern Plains (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001) 86-128 [≈40 pages]
- DOCUMENT: Lewis & Clark and the Teton Sioux [≈2 pages]

Nov 2: The Pacific Coast

• Gary Whaley, "'Complete Liberty'? Gender, Sexuality, Race, and Social Change on the Lower Columbia River, 1805-1838," *Ethnohistory* 54, no. 4 (Fall 2007), 669-695 [≈25 pages]

WEEK 11: Shifting Boundaries

Nov 7: Imperial Enemies and Allies

- Katherine M.J. McKenna, "Mary Brant (Konwatsi'tsiaienni Degonwadonti): "Miss Molly," Feminist Role Model or Mohawk Princess?" in Ian Kenneth Steel and Nancy L. Rhoden, eds., *The Human Tradition in the American Revolution* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 2000), 183-202 [≈20 pages]
- Shoemaker, *Strange Likeness*, 83-104. [≈20 pages]
- DOCUMENT: Wabanaki Wit [≈2 pages]

Nov 9: Adaptation, Accommodation, and Their Limits

- Donna Keith Baron, J. Edward Hood and Holly V. Izard, "They Were Here All Along: The Native American Presence in Lower-Central New England in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 53, no. 3 (July 1996), 561-586 [\$25 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Enoch Brown Schoolhouse Massacre [≈2 pages]

Nov 10: *SECOND RESPONSE PAPER DUE*

WEEK 12: Wars for Independence

Nov 14: Wars for Independence in the North

- Colin Calloway, "Stockbridge: The New England Patriots," in *The American Revolution in Indian Country: Crisis and Diversity in Native American Communities* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995), 85-107 [≈20 pages]
- Phillip W. Hoffman, "Simon Girty: His War on the Frontier," in Ian Kenneth Steel and Nancy L. Rhoden, eds., *The Human Tradition in the American Revolution* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 2000), 221-240 [≈20 pages]
- DOCUMENT: Mary Jemison's Revolution [≈2 pages]

Nov 16: Wars for Independence in the South & West

- Jon W. Parmenter, "Dragging Canoe (Tsi'yu-gûunsi'ni): Chickamauga Cherokee Patriot," in Ian Kenneth Steel and Nancy L. Rhoden, eds., *The Human Tradition in the American Revolution* (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 2000),117-138 [≈20 pages]
- James H. Merrell, *The Indian's New World: Catawbas and their Neighbors from European Contact through the Era of Removal* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1991), 192-225 [≈35 pages]
- DOCUMENT: Cherokee Politics & Diplomacy [≈4 pages]

WEEK 13: Didn't They Do A Brady Bunch Episode About This...?

Nov 21: MOVIE: Reel Injuns (on Blackboard)

Nov 23: No Class: Thanksgiving Break

WEEK 14: The "Empire of Liberty"

Nov 28: Liberty's Dispossessed

- Peter S. Onuf, "'We Shall All Be Americans': Thomas Jefferson and the Indians," *Indiana Magazine of History* 95, no. 2 (June 1999), 103-141. [≈40 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Proceedings of the Hopewell Treaty [\approx 2 pages]

Nov 30: The Northwest Confederacy War

- Jerry Ostler, ""To Extirpate the Indians": An Indigenous Consciousness of Genocide in the Ohio Valley and Lower Great Lakes, 1750s−1810," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 72, no. 4 (October 2015), 587-622 [≈35 page]
- DOCUMENTS: Lenape Speaker Outlines the Causes of War [≈2 pages]

Dec 1: *THIRD RESPONSE PAPER DUE*

WEEK 15: The Beginnings of a Pan-Indian Identity

Dec 5: Religious Pan-Indianism

- R. David Edmunds, "Tecumseh, The Shawnee Prophet, and American History: A Reassessment," *Western Historical Quarterly* 14, no. 3 (Jul. 1983), 261-276. [≈15 pages]
- DOCUMENT: Code of Handsome Lake [≈2 pages]

Dec 7: Pan-Indian Politics up to Tecumseh's & The Red Sticks' War

- Patrick Bottiger, "Prophetstown for Their Own Purposes: The French, Miamis, and Cultural Identities in the Wabash-Maumee Valley," *Journal of the Early Republic* 33, no. 1 (Spring 2013), 29-60 [≈30 pages]
- Pekka Hämäläinen, "Lost in Transitions: Suffering, Survival, and Belonging in the Early Modern Atlantic World," *The William and Mary Quarterly* 68, no. 2 (April 2011), 219-223 [≈4 pages]
- DOCUMENTS: Tecumseh's Speeches [≈3 pages]

WEEK 16: Reading Period

Dec 12: Optional Review Session

WEEK 17: Finals Week

Dec 17: Final Papers Due, 5:00pm

WARNINGS AND DISCLAIMERS

<u>BLACKBOARD</u>: Blackboard will be an integral part of this course. The syllabus, descriptions of assignments, useful guides, and any changes hereafter will be posted there. You are required to check Blackboard regularly and will be responsible for all material on the course site.

<u>CITATION OF SOURCES</u>: When referring to sources (primary and secondary) in your papers, you should provide a complete citation including author, title, publisher, place and date of publication, and page numbers. Citations should follow the "Chicago-style" format commonly used by historians. I ask that you use footnotes with all of your paper assignments. The library website has citation information under "Get Started," and I have included several links on Blackboard. Please see me if you have any questions.

<u>ACADEMIC HONESTY</u>: All students must read and abide by the Academic Honor and Social Code (http://www.bowdoin.edu/studentaffairs/student-handbook/college-policies/index.shtml). Suspected cases of plagiarism will result in a conference me, and, if unresolved at that point, will be referred to the Judicial Board. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please consult a reference librarian or ask me.