

Anthropology 314: Indians of North America

Social Science 6203

9:30-10:45 AM Tuesday/Thursday

Professor Larry Nesper

6329 Social Science

265-1992

lnesper@wisc.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-4:30 or by appointment

Description

This course takes explicit recognition of the fact that American Indian people continue to exist and are more focused on the present and the future than on the past. As a result, we study the ethnography of contemporary issues and only deal with the past as it bears upon the present. Instead of a survey of the anthropological North American 'ethnographic present' we will undertake a survey of the contemporary political and cultural landscape.

Class Requirements

The course will be conducted in both a discussion and lecture modes. Readings are assigned for each class. Prepare for class by reading them as scheduled. Your attendance, preparation and active participation are crucial. If you miss more than three classes for any reason, your grade may be lowered by a full grade. You will be evaluated on the basis of your preparation for and active participation in class. Students will be asked to lead discussions of the readings and present for fifteen minutes (20%). I may also give other short assignments as well (20%). You will be given both a take-home mid-term (30%) and a final (30%). Exams are the major mode of evaluation in this course. Both are very important. Sickness on the day of the exam will be the only acceptable reason for not taking it on the day scheduled and a note from a physician will be required.

Required texts

Texts have been ordered through the University Bookstore. They will also be on reserve at the College Library. Multiple copies of *Portraits of the White Man*. A course packet of readings has been assembled and is available for purchase at the Social Science Copy Center. Students have the option of buying the course packet or not. One copy will be placed on reserve. It will be on electronic reserve as well.

Contemporary Native American Political Issues, ed Troy R Johnston. Alta Mira

Contemporary Native American Cultural Issues, ed, Duane Champagne. Alta Mira

Portraits of the White Man: Linguistic Play and cultural Symbols Among the Western Apache, Keith Basso. Cambridge University Press.

Standing Ground: Yurok Indian Spirituality 1850-1990. Thomas Buckley. U California Press.

The Walleye War: The Struggle for Spearfishing and Treaty Rights, Larry Nesper. U Nebraska Press.