

**Global Indigenous Issues**  
**ANT 324L      Unique#: 31005**  
**LAS 324L Unique#: 40130**  
**Fall 2011**

Professor: Shannon Speed  
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Office Hours: Th 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Class meets: TTH 11:00 - 12:30 in SAC 5.124

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course explores contemporary issues of indigenous peoples throughout the world. Today, even as virtually all nations in the world have voted in favor of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, Indigenous communities, tribes and nations continue to confront a range of issues that challenge their ability to maintain their cultures, govern themselves, and decide their futures. Through films, literature and social science readings, this course looks at those issues, and focuses on how indigenous peoples are actively working to oppose their oppression and create sustainable futures.

Designed as a capstone course for the Indigenous Studies Undergraduate Certificate program, the course enrollment is limited and the course is intensive both in the amount of reading and discussion participation and in the level of analysis expected.

Topics include: Colonialism, Indigenous People and Nation States, Human Rights, Political Sovereignty/Autonomy, Gender, Land and Territory, Resource Extraction, Migration, Incarceration.

**Required texts:**

There are no required texts for this course. All reading will be made available in PDF form on Blackboard or is available on-line.

\*\*\*\*Note: The Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus.

**REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

Students' final grades for the course will be based upon the following:

1. Attendance (10% of final grade)
2. Class discussion (25% of final grade)
3. Film review (5% of final grade)
4. Three 5-6 page reflection papers (20% each, 60% of final grade)

**Class attendance:**

Students will sign an attendance sheet every day during class. Students may miss up to three classes without penalty. Absences are excused only when a student has a serious illness (requires doctor's note), travel for school activity (with appropriate notification), or a letter of excuse from a Dean.

**Participation:** (attendance and discussion) is **35%** of your grade in this class. This gives you some indication of how important I think participation is. Please take this into consideration when deciding if this is the course for you. Please be aware that if you are unwilling to participate in class discussion, you cannot be successful in this course. It is vitally important that you read the materials prior to class and come prepared to engage in a discussion of the issues. If you do engage in the discussions regularly, you will do well, regardless of what level of background knowledge about the issues you bring to the class with you.

**Readings:** There is a considerable amount of reading for this class. It is vitally important that you participate in the class discussion and you cannot do so without having read the material we are discussing. You *must* keep up on the reading to do well in the course. If your schedule does not permit time for this kind of reading load, please carefully consider whether this is the appropriate course for you.

**Films:** We will see six films in the course of the semester. *These films are not optional.* The films provide vital information about the topics we are covering that will not be provided by other sources. If you cannot attend class on the day we are seeing a film, please make arrangements with the professor to view the film outside of class.

**Film Review:** You will write one film review, on the film of your choice, during the semester. The review should be 2 pages in length, and should demonstrate some analytical thought regarding the film. In other words, do not simply say what the film was about, but consider what the message of the film was, how the filmmaker attempted to show it, how it relates to what you know about the subject (including from our readings and discussion in class) and how effective the film was in conveying its message. A film review guide will be provided. *Film reviews should be submitted within one week of the showing and should be sent electronically to the professor at [sspeed@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:sspeed@mail.utexas.edu) with the subject line "film review" and your last name.*

**Papers:** You will write three papers of 5-6 pages in length, double-spaced, that reflect on an issue of the student's choice from the course reading, films, and discussion in the preceding weeks. *Papers are due by 5:00 pm and must be submitted electronically to the professor at [sspeed@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:sspeed@mail.utexas.edu) with the subject line "Paper 1/2/or 3" and your last name.*

The papers should refer to course readings, films and discussion where relevant, and should demonstrate some analytical thought on the part of the author. In other words, take an issue and discuss it in depth; *do not* simply write up a summary of what we read or said in class. This is not intended to be a research paper, but you may use additional sources if you wish. The sources you use should be properly cited. The Chicago Manual of Style is available on-line for consultation about proper citation methods. Internet sources can be appropriate for use in these papers, but be sure to evaluate the quality of such documents before using them. Although these are short papers, please do not regard them as informal. They should have proper grammar and essay structure, including an introduction, discussion/argument and conclusion. Spell check your work!

## **POLICIES**

No late papers are accepted unless you have sought and obtained prior approval from the professor.

Plagiarism and dishonesty will result in failure of the course and will be reported to University administrators. Plagiarism and dishonesty will result in failure of the course and will be reported to University administrators. The university may chose to take action against students accused of academic dishonesty. Potential punishments include suspension and expulsion from the university. Please consult the university's academic integrity policy at:

[http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis\\_conseq.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis_conseq.php)

The LBJ School Writing Center has produced an excellent guide to avoiding plagiarism. Please consult it when in doubt about proper citation:

<http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/students/writing/plagiarism.pdf>

### **Documented Disability Statement**

Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 512 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone), <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/> to obtain an accommodation letter. Please notify me as early in the semester as possible if disability-related accommodations are required to ensure your full participation in the course.

### **Laptop Use Policy**

Classroom Laptop use for taking notes related to this course only. Please see me for an agreement form if you are planning on using a laptop in class for "note taking." Laptop activities unrelated to this course will lead to dismissal from class (and marked as an absence for that day). Repeat offenders will result in a filing of a report of academic problems. Other Electronic Devices (Cell phone, Blackberry, I-Phone, etc.) Use Policy – All devices must be turned off during class. Any use of these devices, including texting, web surfing, etc. will lead to dismissal from class (and marked as an absence for that day). Repeat offenders will result in a filing of a report of academic problems.

## **SCHEDULE**

(All readings for each week should be completed in advance of the Tuesday class, except where otherwise specified)

### **Week One (8/25): Introduction to the course**

### **Week Two (8/30 – 9/1): Colony and Colonial Legacies**

Readings:

8/30 Carmack, Robert M. Chapters 3-5 of *The Legacy of Mesoamerica*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Pearson, 2007. pp. 120-221;

9/1 Sutton, Mark Q. “European Conquest and Invasion” Chapter 2 of *An Introduction to Native North America*. UC Bakersfield 2004. Pp. 24-43.

### **Week Three (9/6 - 9/8): Indigenous People and the Modern State**

Readings:

Diaz Polanco, Hector. “Indigenism After Independence” Chapter 4 of *Indigenous People in Latin America*. Pp. 65-82.

Walter L. Williams. 1980. United States Indian Policy and the Debate over Philippine Annexation: Implications for the Origins of American Imperialism, *The Journal of American History*, Vol. 66, No. 4 (Mar. 1980), pp. 810-831.

Film: Weaving Worlds

### **Week Four (9/13 – 9/15): Sovereignty and Settler Colonialism (Guest 9/13 Circe Sturm)**

Readings: Deloria, Vine. *Custer Died for Your Sins*. Preface, Chapters 1-2 pp.vii 53.

Patrick Wolfe, *Settler Colonialism and the Transformation of Anthropology*, Introduction, Text and Context. Pp. 1-7.

Goldstein, Alyosha. *Where the Nation Takes Place: Proprietary Regimes, Antistatism, and U.S. Settler Colonialism*. Pp. 833-861.

Film: Our Spirits Don't Speak English

### **Week Five (9/20 – 9/22): Indigenous Literatures (Guest Jim Cox)**

Readings: Gertrude Bonnin/Zitkala-Sa. *American Indian Stories*,. On-line at:

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/zitkala-sa/stories/stories.html#impressions>

**Week Six (9/27 - 9/29): Indigenous People and Human Rights** (Guest Ariel Dulitzky)

Readings: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People  
[http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfi/documents/DRIPS\\_en.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfi/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf)

Anaya, James. "The Protection of Indigenous Peoples' Rights over Lands and Natural Resources Under the Inter-American Human Rights System" *Harvard Human Rights Journal*  
<http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/hrj/iss14/williams.shtml>

**Paper #1 Due 9/30 by 5:00** (by email only)

**Week Seven (10/4 – 10/6): Cultural Representation** (Guest 10/6 Pauline Strong)

Readings: TBA

**Week Eight (10/11 – 10/13): Cultural Rights and Repatriation** (Guest 10/13 Karen Engle)

Readings: Engle, Karen. "Culture as Heritage," Chapter 5 in *The Elusive Promise of Indigenous Development: Rights, Culture, Strategy*. Duke 2010. Pp. 141-160.

Weaver, Jace. "Indian Presence with no Indians Present: NAGPRA and its Discontents", *Wicazo Sa Review*, 12(2): 13-30. 1997.

**Week Nine (10/18 – 10/20): Race and Identity** (Guest 10/18 Charlie Hale)

Readings: Garroute, Eva Marie. Introduction – Chapter 4 in *Real Indians: identity and the Survival of Native America*. University of California 2003. Pp. 1-98.

**Week Ten (10/25 – 10/27): Indigenous Epistemologies and Aesthetics** (Guest 10/27 Luis Carcamo Huechante)

Readings: Varese, Stefano. "Indigenous Epistemologies" in *Witness to Sovereignty: Essays on the Indian Movement in Latin America*. IWGIA. 2006. Pp. 274-286.

Film: Also the Rain (Alt: Zapatista)

**Week Eleven (11/1 – 11/3): Resources and Extractivism** (Guest 11/3 Teresa Velasquez)

Readings: Excerpts, Open Veins of Latin America, Eduardo Galeano.

"The New Extraction: Rewriting the Political Ecology of the Andes?" Anthony Bebbington, NACLA Report on the Americas (September/October 2009).

Film: Return of Navajo Boy

**Paper #2 Due 11/4 by 5:00** (by email only)

**Week Twelve (11/8 – 11/10): Gender and Indigenous Rights**

Readings: Smith, Andrea. Native American Feminism, Sovereignty and Social Change. In *Making Space for Indigenous Feminism*, Joyce green (ed.) 2007.

Comandanta Esther. Speech before the Mexican National Congress. In *Dissident Women: Gender, Ethnicity and Cultural Politics in Chiapas*. Speed, Hernandez and Stephen, eds. University of Texas Press. 2006.

Otzoy, Irma. Indigenous Law: Connections and Dis-Connections with Gender Equity. In *Human Rights in the Maya Region: Global Politics, Moral Engagements, and Cultural Contentions*, Pitarch, Pedro, Shannon Speed, and Xochitl Leyva Solano (eds.). Duke University Press. 2008.

Film: Once Were Warriors

**Week Thirteen (11/15 – 11/17): Indigenous Texas (Mario Garza)**

Readings: Forbes, Jack D. Aztecas del Norte: Chicanos from Aztlan, Fawcett, 1973. Pp. 13-31, 70-76.

Tlapoyawa, Kurly. *We will Rise: Rebuilding the Mexikah Nation*, Trafford, 2006. Pp. 6-8, 31-48, 69-73.

“The Legacy of Ethnic Cleansing: The Implementation of NAGPRA in Texas”  
Steve Russell, American Indian Culture and Research Journal 19(4): 193-211.

**Week Fourteen (11/22 only) Incarceration**

Film: Incident at Oglala

**Week Fifteen (11/29 – 12/1) Migration**

Readings: Indigenous Routes: A Framework For Understanding Indigenous Migration, Sections 3, 4 & 5 International Organization for Migration, 2010.

Varese, Stefano. “Transnational indigenous Migrants: diaspora, Identities and Collective Rights” and “Postscript: Transnational Indigenous migrants” in *Witness to Sovereignty: Essays on the Indian Movement in Latin America*. IWGIA. 2006. Pp. 238 – 258.

**Paper #3 Due 12/8 by 5:00 (by email only)**