Description, Enrollment, Instructor, Books, Grading

Course Description

This course is a historical geography of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico, the arid southwest quadrant of the North American continent. Focus is on two subtopics.

1. The ways of life of the "Native Americans," "Spaniards," and "Anglos." Emphasis is placed on subsistence or economic activities of the respective people as they are influenced by the bio-physical environment, technology, demographics, and culture.

2. The effects or changes that successive peoples had on the environment and earlier residents (e.g., how the Spanish mission system affected native cultural ecologies and landscapes) are similarly elucidated.

This course is designed for students in history, anthropology, education, Latin American Studies, American Studies, and Mexican-American Studies, as well as geography. It is intended to provide an understanding of the processes that create geographically identifiable regions.

Enrollment Information

This course is offered only in spring semester of the odd numbered years (e.g., 2011)

Course number: GRG 320K

Unique number:

Meeting time: MWF 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Meeting room: GRG 312

Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of instructor.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. William E. Doolittle.

Office: GRG 306

Hours: by appointment via email

email: dolitl@austin.utexas.edu

Textbooks

For an insightful comment on landscape and literature in the American Southwest click here.

- Gary Nabhan, *The Desert Smells Like Rain: A Naturalist in O'odham Country.* Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2002.
- Willa Cather, *Death Comes for the Archbishop.* New York: Vintage, 1971.
- Cordia Sloane Duke and Joe B. Frantz, *6000 Miles of Fence: Life on the XIT Ranch of Texas.* Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961.
- Allan Hayes and Carol Hayes, *The Desert Southwest: Four Thousand Years of Life and Art.* Berkeley, 2006.

Basis of Grading

- A short (500-700 word) written review of each of the first three assigned books @ 10% each = 30%
- Class participation (including attendance and discussion in class, completion of two exercises, and going on both field trips) = 20%
- Two exams @ 25% each = 50%

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http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~wd/courses/320k/general/descrip.html

Created by William E. Doolittle. Last revised 14 May 2010, wed