

LINFIELD COLLEGE

HISTORY 299

11/15/2006

INSTRUCTOR: John Ritter

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REQUIRED TEXT: "Native Nations", by Nancy Bonvillain, Prentice-Hall, 0-13-863242-1.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover the comprehensive history of Native Americans, From ancient to modern times. We will study from the history of America's First Peoples, from pre-Columbian through modern times.

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course the students will:

-have a basic understanding of the complex history of Native Americans

-be able to discuss the major themes of Indian history.

-realize how complex and diverse their history and societies were in the past and are today. And how the varied population of native people's has contributed to the development and settlement of the United States...

-develop an appreciation for the land and people of indigenous populations.

-learn how the geography of the United States has contributed to its settlement by native peoples.

-realize the complexities of native societies and their uniqueness.

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY: History is my passion as well as my vocation. I live outside of Salem, with many animals, married and two grown children who are gone. I have graduate degrees in history, am bi-lingual and have traveled extensively in Oregon and the Northwest, Africa, Europe and Mexico. I am a retired administrator for the Oregon Department of Corrections and the Oregon department of Education and have taught history classes for colleges for 26 years...

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Course grade The final course grade will be determined by the following:

1-Your Scholarship- via reading assignment completion.

2-Academic Work-assignment completion

3-Your level of activity via the course software.

4-Your input/my input.

Class participation: You will be required to make three substanciative contributions to the class, via the "Class Discussions", emails to me, and completing assignments in a timely manner...

Grading scale:

A= 90-100% of completion of all assignments in an exemplary style.

B= 80-90% of completion of all assigned work in a superior manner.

C=below 80%, completion of all tasks in an average manner.

COURSE POLICIES

Incompletes A grade of Incomplete (I) is given only in emergency situations. The student must request an Incomplete in writing and must obtain my permission. All uncompleted work must be completed within the time limits I set. If you simply don't turn in the final assignments or the final exam, your course grade will be calculated with the missed portion counting for 0 points.

Academic honesty Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student found to be engaging in either of these activities at any point in the course will receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or entire course and may be subject to further college sanctions.

Rules of Discussion The classroom should be a safe haven within which individuals can discuss the widest possible range of topics without fearing retribution, ridicule, or attack. In order for this to happen, we must assume that we are all persons of intelligence and good will who may ultimately disagree, sometimes to a profound degree, with one another but whose characters are not impugned or intelligence disparaged because of this disagreement. The classroom is not a forum for proselytizing, nor is it a soapbox for diatribes by either students or faculty. For the academic endeavor to succeed, we must treat each other with civility, courtesy, and respect. All perspectives and questions are welcome, as long as they are impelled by a genuine desire for knowledge, can be articulated thoughtfully, and supported by sound reasoning.

Difficulties Problems, questions...SEE THE INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY.

Students with disabilities Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor, should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term.

CLASS OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

This is subject to change.

Class Jan 3rd.2007, Class Ends: Feb.7th.2007.

This is a very intensive and brief class. The class is five weeks long. You will be required to read four chapters, approximately 100 pages per week.

Teaching a short term class, presents many difficulties, how do I gauge student interest, activity, resourcefulness, academic ability, etc... I have decided to require you to pick one tribal group—one chapter, out of the four you will be required to read each week. I am going to have you write a 3-5 page paper, each week on one tribe.

The particular tribal group you write on is your choice. Your essay must contain:

- 1-What you find particularly interesting about the tribe,
---do you like this tribe, yes/no... what's different about this tribe compared to another neighboring group... Why did you chose this group to write on---
- 2-How that tribe is unique to others,
----do they use innovative technology or farming techniques, raiding tecniques, political alliances.
- 3-To what degree the group is attuned to live in its environment,
--what do they subsist on? what food types,, is it feast or famine///what is their housing like? Etc...
- 4-The social and political interaction with other indigenous groups, and Europeans,
--trading patterns/alliances, political alliances, who are their enemies/allies//
- 5-the level that the tribe reaches in solving major problems,
--have they migrated to survive// developed new food preparation techniques...etc//
- 6-Your opinion of what's in store in the future for this tribe-
--reservation life/good/bad/casinos/mineral resources...

Remember; your opinion is valued. Try to get away from rigorous historical writing and be creative, in other words, make your essay interesting. And each essay must be completed by the following Monday of every week, late assignments are not a good idea...

To succeed in class. You must get your reading completed, and essay turned in by Monday 8am. Late is not a good idea. You may turn your essay in via an attachment in an email.

