

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for ANTR 7

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES OF NORTH AMERICA

Effective: Fall 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ANTR 7 — NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES OF NORTH AMERICA — 3.00 units

Survey of ways of life of traditional North American Indian cultures in different geographical areas throughout North America prior to European contact and continuing today. Topics include prehistory of Native American cultures, cultural change in response to European contact, current Native American socio-economic conditions, recent legislation including NAGPRA, social movements and cultural renewal.

3.00 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the Native American traditional cultures found in the various geographical regions of North America.
- Identify differences between traditional Native American cultures and Euro- American culture.
- Discuss political and social problems of American Indians today.

V. CONTENT:

- Introduction
 - Native American cultures as a field of Anthropological study
 - Archaeological evidence and the scientific method
 - The First Americans: Paleoindian and Archaic
- Native American Culture Areas and Nations: Prehistory through Present
 - Arctic cultural communities
 - Subarctic cultural communities
 - Pacific Northwest cultural communities
 - Plateau cultural communities
 - California cultural communities
 - Great Basin cultural communities
 - Southwest cultural communities
 - Northeast cultural communities
 - Southeast cultural communities
 - Plains cultural communities
- Culture Change and Current Issues
 - European contact and culture clash
 - Culture change and assimilation of Native American cultures
 - Cultural revival, activism, NAGPRA and other legislation
 - Current issues: casinos, healthcare, education, economic disparities

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- Audio-visual Activity** -
- Supplemental material online and on reserve in the LPC Library.
- Observation and Demonstration** -
- Guest Lecturers** -
- Lecture** -
- Field Trips** -
- Discussion** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Textbook and supplementary reading assignments
 - 1. Discussion of contemporary Native American issues from Native American perspectives
- B. Research projects/papers based on lecture and discussion topics
 - 1. Field assignment: participant observation of a Native American event
- C. Research projects/papers based on outside videos
 - 1. Video analysis: discuss portrayal of Native Americans in past and present media context
- D. Research projects/papers based on library and/or website investigations
 - 1. Compare/contrast two specific Native American traditional cultures in terms of social structure, environment and ideology

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Quizzes
- 3. Research Projects
- 4. Papers
- 5. Oral Presentation
- 6. Class Participation

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Midterm test and final exam
- 2. One research paper
- 3. One video analysis
- 4. Assorted quizzes throughout the semester
- 5. Presentations throughout the semester

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Treuer, A. (2012). *Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask* (1st ed.). Saint Paul, Minnesota: Minnesota Historical Press.
- 2. Sutton, M.Q. (2016). *Introduction to Native North America* (5th ed.). New York, NY: Routledge Press.
- 3. Talbot, S. (2015). *Native Nations of North America: An Indigenous Perspective* (1st ed.). Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.
- 4. Lobo, S. (2010). *Native American Voices* (3rd ed.). Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.
- 5. Oswalt, W.H. (2009). *This Land Was Theirs* (9th ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: