

## North American Indians in American Public Life

Anthropology 316gm

Fall 2020

Lecturer: Prof. Tok Thompson

Office Hours (via Zoom). Weds, 2:00-4:00, or by appointment.

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Discussion Leader: Prof. Kristiana Willsey

Office Hours (via Zoom). Tuesdays, 2:00-4:00.

Email: [willsey@usc.edu](mailto:willsey@usc.edu)

This course investigates the role of Native North Americans in shaping the American experience. Attention will be paid to understanding how people conceive of the past in culturally distinct ways, and will put an emphasis on understanding Native viewpoints of the past, present, and future of their cultures, and their roles in American public life.

### Books (all available at the USC Bookstore)

1. Charles C. Mann. *1491: the Americas before Columbus*
2. James Wilson. *The Earth Shall Weep: A History of Native America*
3. Barre Toelken. *The Anguish of Snails*
4. Richard Erdoes and Alfonso Ortiz. *American Indian Myths and Legends*

### Articles (all will be available via Blackboard)

1. Sturm, Circe. Blood Politics, Racial Classification, and Cherokee National Identity: The Trials and Tribulations of the Cherokee Freedmen *American Indian Quarterly*, Vol. 22, No. 1/2 (Winter - Spring, 1998), pp. 230-258
2. Evans-Pritchard, Deirdre. The Portal Case: Authenticity, Tourism, Traditions, and the Law. 1987. *Journal of American Folklore* 100:287-296.

The grading will be as follows:

- 15 in-class lecture quizzes, 1% each=15%
- Discussion section grade: 10%
- Final project, paper: 25%\*
- Midterm 20%
- Final exam. 30%

\*Final project & paper are broken down as 10% prospectus & initial section (due week 7), and 15% full paper.

### Course Requirements

Readings should be done *before* the class discussion of them. Assignments are to be turned in on time. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and students are advised to follow the University's policy on academic integrity as articulated in the current edition of SCampus.

### The Current Pandemic

We will begin (and probably complete) this semester on an online basis. We will primarily use blackboard and zoom. Attendance is required: if you have some difficulty attending zoom class meetings, please reach out to me regarding these. We will try to keep this class experience as much like a real classroom as possible. Please come prepared to participate fully in discussions.

### Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability should register with Disability Services and Programs (in STU 301, phone 740-0776) and get a letter of verification for approved accommodations. Please show the letter to me at the beginning of the semester.

### Schedule

Week	Topic	Due/Exams	Readings
1	Ways of thinking about the past		<i>1491</i> : pp 1-109 E&O: selections
2		Mini-bio due Thursday	<i>1491</i> : 109-196 E&O: selections
3			<i>1491</i> . 197-231 E&O: selections
4			Wilson: 3-97
5			Wilson 98-213
6	Culture and Governance		Wilson: 232-288
7		Prospectus of paper due by discussion section meeting	Wilson 289-408
8	Native and American	Midterm: Thursday 10/15	Toelken: 1-79
9			Toelken: 80-109
10			Toelken: 110-164
11			Toelken: 165-190
12			E&O: selections; Sturm
13		Final paper due Thursday, Nov. 12	E&O: selections; Evans-Pritchard
Final Exam: Thursday, November 19, 2-4 p.m.			