

The grandfathers and grandmothers are in the children; teach them well.

Ojibwa Proverb¹

American Indian History

HIST 3323. CRN 26242

Scott Comar, Ph.D.

Spring, 2021

Jan 19-May 6, 2021 Online

Instructor: Scott Comar, Ph.D.

Contact Info:

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Office: LART 329 / Blackboard Collaborate

Office Hours: Online MW 11:30-1:00 and by Appointment.

For Technical Issues Contact the [UTEP Tech Support Helpdesk](#)

Course Description

This course offers an overview of the American Indian experience from the pre-Columbian period to the present. It examines how European contact, conquest, and colonization impacted Indigenous peoples, as well as how United States expansion into North America significantly reshaped Native lifeways and cultures. Topics under review in this course include Indigenous-colonial contact relations, land dispossession, self-determination and sovereignty, and resistance and resiliency in the face of national assimilationist policies. This course also introduces students to American Indian history as a field of study, examining some of its basic literature, as well as some of the methods that historians use when approaching this rich and diverse topic.

Course Objectives or Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the basic trends patterns, and turning points in American Indian history;
- Engage as a community of scholars in dialogue about the past;
- Develop critical thinking and academic writing skills;
- Understand the process of academic writing and essay structure;
- Acquire and improve technical and communication skills;
- Understand the field of history as a subjective and ongoing study of past events.

¹ Kristen Marée Cleary, ed., *Native American Wisdom* (New York: Barnes and noble Books, 1996), 64.

Required Materials

Calloway, Colin G. *First Peoples: A Documentary Survey of American Indian History*. Sixth Edition. Boston/New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2019.

In addition, students will be responsible for reading various chapters and articles that will be available in PDF format on Blackboard. Colin G. Calloway, *First Peoples* is available at the UTEP bookstore or online: <https://www.bkstr.com/texaselpasostore/product/first-peoples-672404-1>

Course Policies and Procedures

1. **Technology Requirements:** Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

2. **Course Communication:** How we will stay in contact with each other. Because this is an online class, we won't see each other in the ways you may be accustomed to: during class time, small group meetings, and office hours. However, there are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Office Hours:** We will not be able to meet on campus, but I will still have office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My office hours will be held on Blackboard Collaborate using this link: [insert link] and during the following times:

Mondays: 11:30-1:00pm. MT / Wednesdays: 11:30-1:00pm. Mountain Time

- **Email:** UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student account and please put the course number in the

subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number.

- **Discussion Board:** If you have a question that you believe other students may also have, please post it in the Help Board of the discussion boards inside of Blackboard. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response.
- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.

3. **Participation Policy:** Participation is necessary for success in this class. You must log in at least once every day. The workload requires that you spend between 10 and 12 hours each week engaged in coursework. This involves online assignments and readings. I reserve the right to drop any student from this class for lack of effort.

4. **Late Work Policy: No Late Assignments will be accepted. All Workshops, Quizzes, and Essays are due by 11:59pm on the listed due date.** All coursework is time sensitive in this class. It needs to be completed before the due dates. The best policy here is do your work early. I will open up all assignments at least a week before they are due. The only acceptable excuse for late work is a school related activity or military duty. These must be supported with documentation.

5. **Drop Policy:** I reserve the right to drop anyone from this class for lack of effort. According to UTEP Curriculum and Classroom Policies, "When, in the judgment of the instructor, a student has been absent to such a degree as to impair his or her status relative to credit for the course, the instructor may drop the student from the class with a grade of "W" before the course drop deadline and with a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline." See academic regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excuse absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will drop you from the course. October 30th is the Drop Date. This means that if you want to drop the course with a W, you must do so by this date.

6. **ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY:** The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-

747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

7. Scholastic Integrity: Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as one's own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

8. Netiquette

In an online course, you will engage in various student-student and student-teacher interactions. It is always important to be respectful in this online setting. This is why you should be familiar with proper online etiquette, also known as “netiquette.” Please review this article that explores this idea: [10 Rules of Netiquette for Students](#)

Students will initially receive a warning for any inappropriate or disrespectful posts. For the second offense of any inappropriate or disrespectful posts, points will be deducted from their work. If a pattern of disrespectful and inappropriate posts develops, the student will be removed from the course.

9. COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu. For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection. Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If

you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

Student Resources

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Familiarize yourself with the bookmarks on the right-hand side of the Blackboard student portal (visible before entering into a course) as well as the resources below.

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.

Course Assignments and Grading

No Late Assignments will be accepted. All Workshops, Quizzes, and Short Essays are due by 11:59pm on the listed due date. I will open all Workshops, Quizzes, and Short Essays well in advance to give you adequate time to read and answer the questions. Instructions for these assignments are posted on Blackboard, and you need to read them carefully. **Essays** are also due by 11:59pm of the listed due dates. **Exams**: you will be given a time limit for each exam. The window period for each exam will be generous enough for you to reconsider your answers. Once your exams are submitted, or once the time-period for that exam has ended, the exam is over. Exam dates and times are posted on the syllabus and on Blackboard. To keep up with the workload, you will need to log in everyday and work between four to five hours a day. There is always something to work on in this class. Please read all instructions very carefully.

Grade Distribution:

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|--|------------|----------------------|
| • 12 Quizzes: 15 Points Each = | 180 points | 18% |
| • 12 Workshops: 20 Points Each= | 240 points | 24% (extra % credit) |
| • 4 Exams: 100 Points Each = | 400 points | 40% |
| • 1 Long Essay: 150 Points = | 150 points | 15% |
| • 1 Book Review: 50 Points = | 50 points | 5% |

Students can potentially earn 1020 over the course of this semester:

1000-900 = A 899-800 = B 799-700 = C 699-600 = D 599 and Below = F

Quizzes: Quizzes will be based on the on the textbook readings for that week. Each quiz will be worth 15 points. You will need to acquire the class textbook as soon as possible to do well on these quizzes. I will give more specific instructions for each quiz on the Blackboard Modules for each week.

Workshops: All workshops will be Discussion Board workshops in which students review our weekly reading and discuss it with their peers. For each Workshop, they will **answer a central question** on the assigned reading by posting **500 Word answer** on the **Blackboard Discussion Board** for that workshop. In addition, they must write a **250 Word response to two of their classmates'** postings. The initial answer is worth 10 points. Each response is worth 5. Each Blackboard Discussion Board workshop, if completed correctly, is worth 20 points. Postings must be relevant, and they must meet and exceed the word count. They must have cited examples from the reading: cite page numbers in parenthesis, like this (99). More instructions will be given on Blackboard. All Discussion Board workshops must be completed on time.

Exams: Students will take four exams. There will be a three-day window period time limit for each exam. Exams will be on the material covered after the previous exam. I will post study guides on Blackboard for each exam one week in advance. Each exam is worth a possible 100 points.

Long Essay: Each student will submit one research essay (1500-2000 words minimum: 6-8 pages). You must start working on this immediately because there are deadlines for each stage of the writing process (see Blackboard for essay schedule). These papers must be computer-generated, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and 12 pt. font (Times New Roman). This essay is worth 100 points. All essay must be in the Chicago Manual of Style Format (CMS format aka Turabian), using Bibliographical format with bibliography and footnotes. **See Blackboard for further Instructions.**

Book Review: You will write a 2 to 3-page book review on a book that will be assigned to you by the instructor. Here you will choose one book from a list of books. All additional instructions will be provided on Blackboard. The book review is worth 100 points, or 10% of your grade. The format or template for the book review will be provided on Blackboard.

Zoom Meetings for Extra Credit: We will have Zoom discussion meetings every Friday at 12:00pm. Each Meeting will be worth 2 points extra credit. To get credit, you must stay for the whole meeting and raise your hand and participate in the discussion. Meeting topics will include content material from that specific week. These meetings are not mandatory

because this is an asynchronous online course. Login information will be provided on a weekly basis. (2 X 15 = 30).

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE Some of your course work and assessments may be submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used to review assignment submissions for originality. Be original, write in your own words, and do not use external websites.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT FOR COURSE MATERIALS All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

Read this syllabus carefully, it is your roadmap to success.

Class Calendar—Reading and Assignment Schedule

Calloway, *First Peoples* = FP / Page Range = pp.

	Topic	Readings	Assignments Due on this date:
Week 1 1/19-1/23	-Course Intro. -Syllabus Review -Changing a Narrative	-Read Syllabus -FP, Intro. pages 1-13.	January 24: Syllabus Quiz January 24: Workshop 1
Week 2 1/24-1/30	-Precontact -Creation Stories -Migration Theories	-FP, Chapter 1, pp. 14-65.	Jan 31: Workshop 2 Jan 31: Quiz 1
Week 3 1/31-2/6	-Early Contact -Disease -Depopulation	-FP Chapter 2, pp. 66-85. Feb 3 Census Date.	Feb 7: Workshop 3 Feb 7: Quiz 2 Feb 7: Essay Topic
Week 4 2/7-2/13	-Contact -Fur Trade -Indian Slavery	-FP Chapter 2, pp. 85-129.	Feb 14: Workshop 4 Feb 14: Quiz 3 Feb 14: Exam 1
Week 5 2/14-2/20	-Colonization & Conflict -Resistance -Change	-FP Chapter 3, pp. 130-191.	Feb 21: Workshop 5 Feb 21: Quiz 4
Week 6 2/21-2/27	-1763-1800 -Land Dispossession -Resistance & Change	-FP Chapter 4, pp. 192-245.	Feb 28: Workshop 6 Feb 28: Quiz 5
Week 7 2/28-3/6	-1800-1840 -Resistance -Accommodation -Removal	-FP Chapter 5, pp. 246-303.	Mar 7: Essay Annotated Bibliography Mar 7: Workshop 7 Mar 7: Quiz 6
Week 8 3/7-3/13	-1840-1890 -The West -Genocide & Survival	-FP Chapter 6, pp. 304-369.	Mar 14: Quiz 7 Mar 14: Exam 2
Spring Break 3/15-3/19	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break

Week 9 3/22-3/27	-Assimilation, 1870s-1920s -Americanization -Boarding Schools	-FP Chapter 7, pp. 370-393.	Mar 28: Workshop 8 Mar 28: Essay Introduction Paragraph with Thesis Statement is Due
Week 10 3/28-4/3	-Assimilation Cont. Drop/Withdrawal Deadline is April 1	-FP Chapter 7, pp. 394-435.	April 4: Book Review Due April 4: Quiz 8
Week 11 4/4-4/10	-Indian New Deal -Termination -Civil Rights Mvmt.	-FP Chapter 8, pp. 436-499.	April 11: Workshop 9 April 11: Quiz 9
Week 12 4/11-4/17	-Self-Determination -Sovereignty	-FP Chapter 9, pp 500-534.	April 18: Essay Rough Draft Due April 18: Exam 3
Week 13 4/18-4/24	-Tribal Sovereignty	-FP Chapter 9, pp. 535-565 Long Essay Due on 4/25	April 25: Essay Final Draft Due April 25: Quiz 10.
Week 14 4/25-5/1	-Renaissance -Recognition -Stereotypes -Semi-sovereignty	-FP Chapter 10, pp. 566-588.	May 2: Workshop 10 May 2: Workshop 11
Week 15 5/2-5/8	-Revitalization -Protecting Homelands	-FP Chapter 10.	May 9: Workshop 12 May 9: Quiz 11
Week 16 Finals	Final Exam	Due Tuesday, May 11.	May 11: Final Exam Due

May 19: Grades Due.

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May 20: Grades posted to student records.