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**HIST 6000**  
**Colloquium in Ethnohistory**  
Spring 2004, T 3:30-6:15, LeConte Hall 201

**Course description:** This course introduces some of the methodological problems, divergent approaches, and political debates that make up ethnohistory. In the interest of exposing students to a broad swath of ethnohistory, the readings move widely across time and space, across disciplines, and from theory to practice.

**Assignments:**

•Review Essay. Over the course of the semester, you write a critical essay of fifteen to twenty pages. The essay will review and critique the literature on a chosen subject (gender, sovereignty, culture, orality, race and slavery...). Due on the last day of class.

•Book Commentary. Each of you will be responsible for writing a three-page commentary on the week's reading and distributing it to the rest of us by the Monday before class on the following listserv: Ethnohistory-L@listserv.uga.edu. The first two pages of the commentary should concisely and critically summarize the readings. The last page should raise problems and questions for discussion.

**Grading:**

Class participation:	30%
Book Commentary:	10%
Paper:	60%

**Books**

The following books are available at the university bookstore. Articles are available online, as noted below. Password for reserve readings is "ethnohistory."

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples (Zed Books, 1999)

Bruce Lincoln, Theorizing Myth: Narrative, Ideology, and Scholarship (University of Chicago, 1999)

Cabeza de Vaca, Narrative of Cabeza de Vaca (Nebraska, reprint 2003)

Alexandra Harmon, Indians in the Making: Ethnic Relations and Indian Identities around Puget Sound (University of California, 1998)

Philip Deloria, Playing Indian (Yale, 1998)

Sidney Haring, Crow Dog's Case: American Indian Sovereignty, Tribal Law, and the U.S. Law in the Nineteenth Century (Cambridge, 1994)

Brian Dippie, The Vanishing American: White Attitudes and U.S. Indian Policy (University of Kansas, 1982)

Julie Cruikshank, Social Life of Stories: Narrative and Knowledge in the Yukon Territory (University of Nebraska, 1998)

Theda Perdue, Cherokee Women: Gender and Culture Change (University of Nebraska, 1998)

### **Reading Schedule:**

#### **Week 1: Introduction**

1/13                      Course overview.

#### **Week 2: Methodology**

1/20                      R. David Edmunds, "Native Americans, New Voices: American Indian History, 1895-1995," American Historical Review 100 (1995): 717-740. JSTOR

Frederick Hoxie, "Ethnohistory for a Tribal World," Ethnohistory 44 (1997): 595-615. JSTOR

Jennifer Brown, "Ethnohistorians," Ethnohistory 38 (1991): 113-123. JSTOR

James Axtell, "Ethnohistory: An Historian's Viewpoint," Ethnohistory 26 (1979): 1-13. JSTOR

James Merrell, "Some Thoughts on Colonial Historians and American Indians," William and Mary Quarterly 46 (1989): 94-119. JSTOR

Robert Brightman, "Forget Culture," Cultural Anthropology 10 (1995): 509-546. READ ONLY 509-526. JSTOR

William H. Sewell, Jr., "The Concept(s) of Culture," in Victoria E. Bonnell and Lynn Hunt, Beyond the Cultural Turn, 35-61. (On reserve)

#### **Week 3: Methodology II**

1/27 Linda Tuhiwai Smith, Decolonizing Methodologies.

Richard White, "Using the Past: History and Native American Studies," in Russell Thornton, ed., Studying Native America: Problems and Prospects (Madison: University of Wisconsin, 1998), 217-243. (On reserve)

Dipesh Chakrabarty, "Postcoloniality and the Artifice of History: Who Speaks for 'Indian' Pasts?" Representations (1992): 1-26. JSTOR

#### **Week 4: Myth**

2/3 Bruce Lincoln, Theorizing Myth: Narrative, Ideology, and Scholarship, ix-159, 207-216.

Arnold Krupat, Red Matters: Native American Studies (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 2002), chap. 3. (On reserve)

#### **Week 5: independent research**

2/10

#### **Week 6: Texts and Interpretations**

2/17 Cabeza de Vaca, Narrative of the Life of Cabeza de Vaca

Selections from William Apess (handout)

#### **Week 7: Identity**

2/24 Alexandra Harmon, Indians in the Making.

Circe Sturm, Blood Politics: Race, Culture, and Identity in the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, chap. 7. (On reserve)

#### **Week 8: independent research**

3/2

#### **Week 9: In the National Mythology**

3/16 Philip Deloria, Playing Indian.

#### **SPRING BREAK**

#### **Week 10: Sovereignty**

3/23 Paul Gilroy, "Identity, Belonging, and the Critique of Pure Sameness," in Against Race: Imagining Political Culture Beyond the Color Line (Cambridge:

Harvard University, 2000), 97-134. (On reserve)

James Clifford, "Identity in Mashpee," in The Predicament of Culture (Cambridge: Harvard University, 1988), 277-346. (On reserve)

Sidney Harring, Crow Dog's Case: American Indian Sovereignty, Tribal Law, and the U.S. Law in the Nineteenth Century

**Week 11: Film**

Film screenings.

**Week 12: Images**

3/30 Brian Dippie, The Vanishing American: White Attitudes and U.S. Indian Policy

**Week 13: *independent research***

4/13

**Week 14: Oral Narratives and Storytelling**

4/20 Julie Cruikshank, Social Life of Stories

**Week 15: Gender**

4/27 Theda Perdue, Cherokee Women: Gender and Culture Change  
Nancy Shoemaker, "An Alliance between Men: Gender Metaphors in Eighteenth-Century American Indian Diplomacy East of the Mississippi," Ethnohistory 46 (1999): 239-263. JSTOR  
  
Claudio Saunt, "'Domestick...Quiet being broke': Gender Conflict among Creek Indians in the Eighteenth Century," in Contact Points: North American Frontiers from the Mohawk Valley to the Mississippi, 1750-1830, eds. Fredrika J. Teute and Andrew R.L. Cayton (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1998). (On reserve)