

ANT 325: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND GLOBALIZATION

Spring 2009

T, Th, 11:30-1:00

Cooper Hall, Room C3

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Office Hours: T, Th: 9:30-10:30 & 2-3
-and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Who is indigenous? What is globalization? What are the issues and problems between these two terms? This course approaches these questions via a critical, historical, and reflexive political ecology. Increasingly, indigeneity is becoming a strategy of survivance and leverage deployed by human groups who are marginalized by states and corporations. Or is it a strategy by which states and corporations absorb resistance to the ongoing expansion of global capitalism? Is it liberation or Frankenstein? The social category of indigenous identity is the most diverse of all: it includes ca. 400,000,000 people, speaking some 6000 different languages, and occupying lands in ca. 70 different nation-states. This course provides an introduction to the cultural patterns and variations of what it means to be indigenous in different regions of the world today, and traces the history of economic globalization, from the fifteenth century up to the present.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:

By the end of this class, students will have developed the capacity to engage in an informed and articulate conversation about the contemporary history of indigenous peoples and lands, and their global status *vis a vis* nation-states, the corporate sector, and civil society. Students will have gained research experience through final projects that measure the implementation gap between human rights and social realities.

- * - become conversant in the global issues impacting indigenous peoples today.
- * - develop critical reasoning skills.
- * - enhance understanding of human variation.
- * - learn about sociocultural difference, including ethnicity, race, and nation.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. *Indigenous Experience Today*, edited by Marisol de la Cadena and Orin Starn (2007). Oxford and New York: Berg Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-84520-519-5.
2. *Paradigm Wars: Indigenous Peoples' Resistance to Globalization*, edited by Jerry Mander and Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (2006), International Forum on Globalization. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books.
3. *Europe and the People Without History*, by Eric Wolf (1982). Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN: 978-0-520-04898-0. 1997 edition contains a new preface.

ALL ADDITIONAL READINGS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY VIA ANGEL

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

One Research Paper on Indigenous Peoples and Globalization (35%)

Write an original research paper on a specific and contemporary issue of globalization involving a specific indigenous nation/peoples, approximately 10 pp. in length. Handout with detailed guidelines and suggested topics will be distributed in the third week. Final Paper due at the end of the term.

Three Take-Home Essay Exams (total = 50 % of final grade)

Each exam will consist of 3-4 questions based on prior readings, to which you are expected to respond with original well-written essays. See schedule for due dates

- Exam 1: old globalization and indigenous responses (15%)
- Exam 2: new globalization and indigenous responses (15%)
- Exam 3 (final exam): contemporary problems and prospects for humanity (20%)

Attendance and Participation - (15% of final grade).

You are expected to be present and prepared for every class session. Being prepared means having completed the reading in advance, and ready to engage with your peers and I in a critical discussion or other classroom activities. Bring questions, comments, and arguments with you and be ready to raise them when called upon. Starting in week 3, students will take turns leading off the discussion for the assigned readings and facilitating discussion. While any unexcused absence detracts from your grade, five or more unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for both attendance and participation.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1:

January 27, Tuesday: Introduction and review of syllabus.

January 29, Thursday: Keating report & UNDECRIPS (both e-readings)
watch film: "Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations, Vol. 1". Access via resources page on UNPFII website:

Week 2:

February 3, Tuesday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (33-67) Tsing, "Indigenous Voice"

February 5, Thursday: *Paradigm Wars* (pp. 3-12): "Introduction: Globalization and the Assault on Indigenous Resources"
& *Europe and the People Without History*: both prefaces.

Week 3: *Europe and the People Without History*, "Part One: Connections"

February 10, Tuesday: "Introduction" & "The World in 1400"

February 12, Thursday: "Modes of Production"

Week 4: complete "Part One" and begin "Part Two: In Search of Wealth"

February 17, Tuesday: "Europe, Prelude to Expansion"

February 19, Thursday: “Iberians in America”

Week 5: “Part Two”, continued

February 24, Tuesday: “The Fur Trade”

February 26, Thursday: “The Slave Trade”

Week 6: complete “Part Two” and begin “Part Three: Capitalism”

March 3, Tuesday: “Trade and Conquest in the Orient”

March 5, Thursday: “Industrial Revolution”

Exam 1 Due

Week 7: “Part Three”, continued

March 10, Tuesday: “Crisis and Differentiation in Capitalism”

March 12, Thursday: “The Movement of Commodities”

Week 8: Spring Break: Classes Suspended

Week 9: finish *Europe and the People Without History*, & review contemporary globalization

March 24, Tuesday: “The New Laborers” & “Afterword”

March 26, Thursday: Globalization 101 website

Week 10:

March 31, Tuesday: *Paradigm Wars*, “Culture Clash” - pp. 13-39:

Tauli-Corpuz: “Our Right to Remain Separate and Distinct”

LaDuke et al: “Aspects of Traditional Knowledge and Worldview”

Armstrong: “Community: Sharing One Skin”

April 2, Thursday: *Indigenous Experience Today*, Yeh, “Tibetan Indigeneity: Translations, Resemblances, and Uptake”

Week 11

April 7, Tuesday: *Paradigm Wars*, “Part Two. Rules of the Game” (pp. 49-87):

- Tauli-Corpuz: “World Bank and IMF Impacts on Indigenous Economies”

- Menotti: “How the WTO Diminishes Native Sovereignty”

- Harry: “High-Tech Invasion: Biocolonialism”

- Shiva: “TRIPS Agreement: From the Commons to Corporate Patents on Life”

April 9, Thursday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (171-194) Brown, “Sovereignty’s Betrayals”

Exam 2 Due

Week 12:

April 14, Tuesday: *Paradigm Wars*, “Part Three: Diverse Impacts on Indigenous Peoples”

- Lloyd et al (pp. 89-94): Infrastructure Development in the South American Amazon”
- Watt-Cloutier (97-99): “Climate Change in the Arctic”
- Ishtar (101-107): “A-Bombs to Star Wars - The Sixty-Years War on the Marshall Islanders
- York (133-138): “Mixed Promises of Ecotourism”

April 16, Thursday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (355-378) Cruikshank, “Melting Glaciers and Emerging Histories in the Saint Elias Mountains”

Week 13:

April 21, Tuesday: *Paradigm Wars*, “Part Four: FOCUS ON EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES” (pp. 153-177)

- Douglas and Okonta: “Ogoni People of Nigeria VS. Big Oil”
- Tebtebba & IFG: “The Philippine Mining Act of 1995”
- Tebtebba & IFG: “Briefing Reports”

April 23, Thursday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (125-150) Merlan, “Indigeneity as Relational Identity: The Construction of Australian Land Rights”

Week 14:

April 28, Tuesday: *Paradigm Wars*, “Part Five: TURNING POINTS (pp.181-227)

- Bell: “Report from “The Heart of the Earth”
- York: “Bolivia’s Indigenous Revolution”
- LaDuke: “Indian Country: The Saudi Arabia of Wind”
- Manuel: “Indigenous Brief to WTO: How the Denial of Aboriginal Title Serves as an Illegal Export Subsidy”
- Tauli-Corpuz: “The Prospect Ahead”
- Mander: “Epilogue: Summary and Final Comments”

April 30, Thursday: (e-reading) “Indigenous Movements and the Risks of Counter globalization,” article by Stuart Kirsch

Week 15:

May 5, Tuesday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (197-224) Clifford, “Varieties of Indigenous Experience: Diasporas, Homelands, Sovereignties”

May 7, Thursday: *Indigenous Experience Today* (397-404) Pratt, “Afterword: Indigeneity Today” **Research Paper Due**

Week 16: FINALS WEEK

MONDAY MAY 11: FINAL EXAM (EXAM #3) DUE