

**NAS 101-0991**  
**INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES**  
**ONLINE Summer 2018**  
**Three Week Course: August 6 - 24**  
**The University of Maine**

**Dr. Lisa K. Neuman**

Office: 116 S. Stevens (ANT) and 204 Corbett (NAS)

Office Hours: Online and by appointment

Phone: 581-4489 (messages) or 581-4490 (S. Stevens)

E-mail: [lisa.neuman@maine.edu](mailto:lisa.neuman@maine.edu) (include **NAS 101** in subject line)

Blackboard Address: <http://bb.courses.maine.edu>

**Course Summary:**

This is an ONLINE introductory course (3 credit hours) that satisfies the University's general education *Social Contexts and Institutions* and *Cultural Diversity and International Perspectives* requirements. This course uses digital lectures, films, tests, and short projects, all of which are available and/or submitted online.

There is no prerequisite for this course.

Your grade in this course will be based on a combination of three exams and three short online projects. There is no final exam in this course.

**Larger Themes:**

Until quite recently, many people were convinced that American Indians were vanishing. This belief was based, in part, on the observable consequences of centuries of European American presence in North America. For example, by the early twentieth century many Indian communities that had been located east of the Mississippi River had been removed to reservations and specially-designed territories in the West. When many non-Indians thought of Native Americans, they relied very little on actual knowledge, resorting instead to stereotypical images of Indian life as portrayed in Wild West shows and journalistic accounts of "massacres" of White settlers by "savage" Indians. In addition, years of intermarriage and contact between Native Americans, African Americans, and European Americans in the East had created new communities that differed substantially from Indian communities on western reservations.

Today, it is clear that Native peoples have not vanished from North America. Native Americans are asserting their unique identities, rights to self-government, and claims to culture and natural resources. Moreover, in asserting their rights to sovereignty, Indian tribes today increasingly find themselves depicted in the local and national media. Current debates over Indian gaming (casinos), hunting and fishing rights, and the repatriation (return) of tribal remains and sacred objects from museums to Indian communities have captured the attention of the larger American public.

In this course, we will examine the lives of American Indians and the larger issues faced by Indian communities—from their earliest contact with each other and Europeans to the present day. Our approach will be both geographical and topical, and we will cover some groups and subjects in more depth than others. Topics covered include: images of American Indians; the diversity of Native American cultures in the United States; the effects of European contact on traditional American Indian cultures; how Indian identity is legally and socially defined in the United States; special laws that apply to American Indians; religion and sacred sites; museums

and repatriation of Indian remains; Indian lands and natural resources; gaming, tourism, and economic development; and other current debates affecting Indian communities.

### **Course Objectives:**

As a student in this course, you will:

- 1) Become acquainted with the diverse cultural and political groups indigenous to North America that are often subsumed under the terms "Indians," "American Indians," and "Native Americans."
- 2) Better understand the history of European expansion into the Americas and its effect on indigenous populations.
- 3) Gain an appreciation of the issues facing American Indian communities today as a result of this complex history.
- 4) Be able to answer the following questions that relate to current events: Who is an Indian? What is a reservation? Why do some tribes operate casinos where gambling is otherwise illegal? Are Indians given racial preferences over other groups? What is a treaty? How do many non-Indians view Indians? How do many Indians view non-Indians?

### **Course Requirements**

Online Tests (3 @ 25%)	75%
Short Projects (2 @ 8%; 1 @ 9%)	25%

### **Grading Criteria**

All course requirements will be assessed a letter grade, which will, in turn, be converted to a numeric (100 point) scale and then weighted for final grade calculations. I convert points to final letter grades in this course as follows: Conversion: 100-93 = A; 92-90 = A-; 89-87 = B+; 86-83 = B; 82-80 = B-; 79-77 = C+; 76-73 = C; 72-70 = C-; 69-67 = D+; 66-63 = D; 62-60 = D-; 59 or below = F.

### **Electronic Learning:**

Course Infrastructure and Access: This course uses a **Blackboard course site** ([bb.courses.maine.edu](http://bb.courses.maine.edu)) and email correspondence. This course does **not** utilize WebCT or FirstClass folders. **Use your Mainstreet ID and Password (the one associated with your maine.edu account, not FirstClass) to login to Blackboard.** You will receive important announcements, assignments, and notes through the Blackboard website. You are responsible for checking the site regularly for updates. I recommend checking the site daily.

Please note:

1. **Tests are taken on Blackboard in their allotted time frames. The three short projects are also submitted on Blackboard by the date specified.**
2. Computer Literacy Requirements: Access to a computer with broadband, ability to download programs, e.g. send email, read email, and access the web.
3. Please make sure you have a **valid email account and that you check it daily.**
4. Bandwidth Requirements: Broadband or high speed Internet connection. Video streaming on Blackboard may require a high-speed connection. Satellite does not always work with streaming.
5. **Technical Help:** You can contact the I.T. Help Center at [help.center@umit.maine.edu](mailto:help.center@umit.maine.edu) or 207 581-2506 for computer-related (including network connection) questions. You can also **contact** [cedtechhelp@umit.maine.edu](mailto:cedtechhelp@umit.maine.edu), 207 581-4591 or 1-877-947-4357.

Broadband connection is available at computer labs at UC Centers throughout Maine. For help locating a UC Center nearest you, please dial UC Tele-service at 1-800-868-7000.

6. Required films are on the Course Content page. If the image darkens when you are watching a video, just tap your keypad and it will usually reappear.
7. **Tests are to be taken on Blackboard within the test window** found on the course schedule (end of syllabus). **Tests are multiple choice and open book/notes, but you will only have 75 minutes to complete the test once you begin.** You are not permitted to collaborate or share information about the content of the tests; **you must work alone.** Other students may not have the same version of the test that you do.

### **Required Textbook**

The following textbook will be available through the UMaine (Orono) (581-1700, <http://bookstore.umaine.edu/>) bookstore.

Sutton, Mark Q. 2016. *An Introduction to Native North America. Fifth Edition.* Boston: Pearson Education, Inc. (a division of Allyn and Bacon). Please make sure you have the correct edition. ISBN: 978-0133814095.

**\*\*\*\*Some additional required articles are on Blackboard\*\*\*\***

### **Films**

Films are as important as readings and lectures in this course. Please be prepared to take notes during the online films. All our films are in the new Kaltura media platform on Blackboard. Our lectures and film guides are in the Synapse media format. Synapse should open automatically for you. If you have any problems, sometimes switching to a new browser helps. If not, please contact the IT Help Center.

### **Minor in Native American Studies**

Students are encouraged to explore the possibility of adding a Minor in Native American Studies to their degree program. **For additional information contact me or follow the link to the NAS website on Blackboard.**

### **UMaine Official Contingency Statement:**

“In the event of an extended disruption of normal class activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.”

### **Where to Find Out About Important Announcements**

Important announcements will be made on the course Blackboard site. Please check your email daily as well.

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you have (or suspect) a documented disability that affects your academic work, your ability to attend classes, or the quality of your experience viewing and/or listening to our lectures and/or films, you must contact Student Accessibility Services at **121 East Annex**, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.

### **Late Project Policy**

To be fair to all students, late projects will be accepted within a reasonable time frame but the grade will be lowered according to a formula that will be consistently applied to all students (1/3 letter grade per day). Projects that are severely overdue will not receive any credit. No late work can be accepted after 11:59 PM on 8/29.

### **Make Up Test Policy**

Students are expected to take the online tests during the window they are scheduled. In the event of illness, an emergency, or an unforeseen event over which you have no control, email me as soon as possible and we will discuss your alternatives, including how to provide documentation of your situation and how to arrange for you to make up missed work. I reserve the right to refuse to give a makeup exam.

Technical Note: If you experience a technical problem while taking a test on Blackboard or submitting a paper, please email me as the problem is happening. UMaine technical support staff and I can help. Note that Blackboard keeps track of all student login, test taking, and project submission activity, so we can see where you are at all times and help.

### **When Collaboration with Other People is Off-Limits (and when it is OK)**

Students may not collaborate on tests.

1. You may not share the test questions with other students (sharing test information with other students is considered cheating)
2. You must take your online exam; a test proxy is not permitted (having someone else take your exam for you is considered cheating, whether or not they are compensated)
3. You are not permitted to talk to other students (whether enrolled in the class or not) while taking the exam; this includes sitting next to another student and discussing questions or answers, asking another student to look up information for you, or looking at another student's exam while he or she is taking it (doing so gives you an unfair advantage over other students and is considered cheating)
4. That said, you are permitted to utilize any course materials (readings, films, lectures, guides), your own notes, the Internet, and Blackboard to complete the exam. It is OPEN book and notes

Students may discuss elements of their NAS 101 projects with friends and classmates, when indicated on the project instructions.

1. You must do your own original work for the projects
2. You are always allowed to use the Internet, class notes, and course materials when completing your projects online.

### **A Note About Failing Grades on Written Work versus Exams**

While a student who fails an exam can often earn partial credit for some correct work on the exam (35 points, 55 points, etc.), a student who fails a written assignment may earn no points, rather than some other form of partial credit. I am quite generous when drawing the line between writing earning a "D" grade and writing earning an "F." However, there are times when

written work has very little merit or does not truly represent a student's own work (see **Academic Code of Conduct** below) and cannot receive a passing grade.

### **Sexual violence policy:**

**Sexual discrimination reporting:** The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell any of your teachers about sexual discrimination involving members of the campus, **your teacher is required to report** this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

Behaviors that can be "sexual discrimination" include sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct, and gender discrimination. Therefore, all of these behaviors must be reported.

### **Why do teachers have to report sexual discrimination?**

The university can better support students in trouble if we know about what is happening. Reporting also helps us to identify patterns that might arise— for example, if more than one victim reports having been assaulted or harassed by the same individual.

### **What will happen to a student if a teacher reports?**

An employee from the Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity will reach out to you and offer support, resources, and information. You will be invited to meet with the employee to discuss the situation and the various options available to you.

If you have requested confidentiality, the University will weigh your request that no action be taken against the institution's obligation to provide a safe, nondiscriminatory environment for all students. If the University determines that it can maintain confidentiality, you must understand that the institution's ability to meaningfully investigate the incident and pursue disciplinary action, if warranted, may be limited. There are times when the University may not be able to honor a request for confidentiality because doing so would pose a risk to its ability to provide a safe, nondiscriminatory environment for everyone. If the University determines that it cannot maintain confidentiality, the University will advise you, prior to starting an investigation and, to the extent possible, will share information only with those responsible for handling the institution's response.

The University is committed to the well-being of all students and will take steps to protect all involved from retaliation or harm.

**If you want to talk in confidence** to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

*For confidential resources on campus:* **Counseling Center: 207-581-1392 or Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000.**

*For confidential resources off campus:* **Rape Response Services: 1-800-310-0000 or Partners in Peace: 1-800-863-9909.**

**Other resources:** The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

For support services on campus: **Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406, Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409, University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911.** Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at <http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/>

### **Academic Code of Conduct**

Each student is expected to complete his or her own work, including tests and projects. When an outside source is utilized in a paper, written project summary, or written report, that source must be acknowledged or the student has committed **plagiarism**. Plagiarism will earn a student a failing grade on a written assignment or paper (as would cheating on an exam), and hence that assignment or paper will be scored as a "0." Plagiarism and cheating have severe academic consequences.

The following is taken directly from the U Maine Undergraduate Student Handbook:

***"Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers or to submit papers written by another person, to "fake" experimental results, or to copy parts of books or articles [or web sites] into your own papers without putting the copied material in quotation marks and clearly indicating its source. Students committing or aiding any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University. Details concerning these policies and the avenues of appeal open to students are published in the online University of Maine Student Handbook."***

**I have a strict anti-plagiarism policy in this course. I am an expert at detecting it. Don't do it.**

Regarding the use and citing of online sources: With more and more students using the Internet, it is tempting to search for material online. If you search the Internet often, you may even notice that some web sites copy material from others, often without acknowledging it (hence, they are committing plagiarism!). Importantly, this does not mean that such material is in the public domain, nor does it mean that you, as a student, are permitted to use such material in your papers, projects, and reports without properly attributing it to the Internet source that you utilized. Also remember that all such material, unless paraphrased (i.e., put into **your own** words), must contain quotation marks.

Additional warning: It is not a good idea to be looking at an online source or another person's project while attempting to write your own. This type of writing strategy often leads to lazy language use, copying, and plagiarism. Ultimately, I recommend that at all times you strive to develop your own ways of expressing ideas and cite other people's ideas and words sparingly.

### **Online Office Hours**

I am available via email to talk about your course needs and answer questions. Please feel free to contact me. If we cannot resolve an issue online, we will set up a personal appointment on campus.

### **About the Schedule**

In this course, we will cover different geographic areas (reflecting the diversity of American Indian cultural groups) as well as some larger themes or issues that affect all Native Americans. Readings are listed on the syllabus. Sutton is our main text for the course. However, you will occasionally see another reading on the syllabus. These additional readings are short articles that will appear on Blackboard. Unless otherwise specified, all assigned readings should be completed by the day they are listed on the schedule.

### **Class Schedule:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Important Dates</b>
Day 1. 8/6	Introductions & Orientations	Sutton CH 1		
Day 2. 8/7	Historical Overview	Sutton CH 2		
Day 3. 8/8	Imaginings	"The Pocahontas Perplex" and "The Letter of Columbus" -- Blackboard		
Day 4. 8/9	California and the West	Sutton CH 8; "The Sword and the Cross: California Missions" -- Blackboard	<b>Images Project</b>  Film: <i>Ishi, the Last Yahi</i>	<b>Images Project Due 8/9 (by 11:59 PM)</b>
Day 5. 8/10	The Southwest	Sutton CH 9 & Hopi Case Study	Film: <i>Hopi, Songs of the 4<sup>th</sup> World</i>  <b>Test #1</b>	<b>Test #1 Window (Noon 8/10-11:59 PM 8/13)</b>
Day 6. 8/13	The Wabanaki of Maine	Neuman (other TBA) -- Blackboard	Film: <i>Wabanaki, A New Dawn</i>	
Day 7. 8/14	The Northeast	Sutton CH 11 & Iroquois Confederacy Case Study		
Day 8. 8/15	Alaska	Sutton CH 3 & Aleutian Islanders Case Study		

Day 9. 8/16	The Southeast and Removal	Sutton CH 12 & Cherokee Case Study	Film: <i>The Native Americans, The Southeast</i>	<b>Maine Tribes Project Due 8/16 (by 11:59 PM)</b>
Day 10. 8/17	Oklahoma and the Plains	Sutton CH 10 & Cheyenne Case Study	Film: <i>The Native Americans, The Plains II</i>  <b>Test #2</b>	<b>Test #2 Window (Noon 8/17- 11:59 PM 8/20)</b>

Day 11. 8/20	American Indian Education	"Civilize them with a Stick" and "Asgaya Dihi"-- Blackboard	Film: <i>In the White Man's Image</i>	
Day 12. 8/21	Who is an Indian? What is a Tribe?	"What If My Grandma Eats Big Macs?" & "If He Gets a Nose Bleed" -- Blackboard		
Day 13. 8/22	Religious Freedom & Environmental Issues	"Indigenous Environmental Perspectives" & "Who Owns Our Past?" -- Blackboard	Film: <i>The Peyote Road</i>	
Day 14. 8/23	Indigenous Political Activism (AIM)	Sutton CH 13	Film: <i>Incident at Oglala</i>	
Day 15. 8/24	Contemporary Issues & Course Wrap Up		<b>Contemporary Issues Project</b>  <b>Test #3</b>	<b>Contemporary Issues Project Due *Friday* 8/24 (by 11:59 PM)</b>  <b>Test #3 Window (Noon 8/24- 11:59 PM 8/27)</b>



**Final date for all work to be in, unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor: Wednesday 8/29 by 11:59 PM.**