

University of Oklahoma
Honors Colloquium 3993.003
Fall 2000
Thursday 1:30-4:20
Honors College (CCD5) 180

Red Power

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Course Description

Focusing on native activism in the sixties and seventies, this multidisciplinary seminar explores the intersections of cultural revitalization and political mobilization in an era of social upheaval. Course readings include historical narratives, primary documents, scholarly interpretations, and literary expressions. Selected archival and retrospective audiovisuals are also presented and discussed. Each student is expected to participate in class discussions, submit short weekly writing assignments based on the readings, and complete a take-home final exam.

Seminar participants improve their understanding of the contemporary situation among native people in the U.S. and Canada; develop their abilities in interpreting various historical, legal, social scientific, and literary discourses; and gain an appreciation for the complexity of culture, politics, and social change in the twenty-first century.

Course Texts

These books are available for purchase at the OU Bookstore and are also on two-hour closed reserve at the Reserve Desk in Bizzell Memorial Library:

Peter Iverson, *"We Are Still Here": American Indians in the Twentieth Century* (Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, 1998).

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., Joane Nagel, and Troy Johnson (eds.), *Red Power: The American Indians' Fight for Freedom*, 2nd ed. (Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1999).

Vine Deloria, Jr., *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto*, rev. ed. (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988).

Paul Chaat Smith and Robert Allen Warrior, *Like a Hurricane: The Indian Movement from Alcatraz to Wounded Knee* (New York, NY: New Press, 1996).

John William Sayer, *Ghost Dancing the Law: The Wounded Knee Trials* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997).

Joane Nagel, *American Indian Ethnic Renewal: Red Power and the Resurgence of Identity and Culture* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1996).

Peter McFarlane, *Brotherhood to Nationhood: George Manuel and the Making of the Modern Indian Movement* (Toronto, Ontario: Between the Lines, 1993).

Jeannette Armstrong, *Slash*, rev. ed. (Penticton, British Columbia: Theytus Books, 1985).

These audiovisuals will be presented during class meetings:

Eyes on the Prize II: Power! (1986)

The Spirit of Crazy Horse (1990)

Billy Jack (1971)

You Are on Indian Land (1969)

Custer Died for Your Sins (1970)

Alcatraz Is Not an Island (1999)

Radio Free Alcatraz (1970)

The Road to Wounded Knee (1973)

Lakota Woman (1994)

Incident at Oglala (1991)

Warrior: The Life of Leonard Peltier (1991)

The New Indians (1976)

People of the Sacred Circle (1975)

Pow Wow Highway (1988)

Thunderheart (1992)

Course Requirements

Class participation	33%
Response papers	33%
Final exam	33%
Sense of humor	1%

Course Schedule

August 24: Course Introductions

August 31: American Indians in the Twentieth Century

Iverson -138

September 7: Contemporary Native Activism

Iverson -211

Josephy 1-27, 69-92, 143-146, 175-191

Red Power, 1st ed. (on reserve)

September 14: Postcolonial Manifestos

Deloria -267

Josephy 93-100

Custer Died for Your Sins, 1st ed. (on reserve)

September 21: The Alcatraz Occupation

Smith -111

Josephy 28-43, 101-118, 147-149, 192-195

September 28: The Trail of Broken Treaties

Smith -168

Josephy 44-47, 150-153

The American Indian Speaks (on reserve)

October 5: Wounded Knee II

Smith -279

Josephy 48-50

October 12: The Wounded Knee Trials

Sayer -191

Josephy 51-52, 119-121, 154-156

October 19: Making History

Sayer -232

Josephy 53-64, 122-139, 157-171, 196-291

October 26: Politics and Ethnicity

Nagel -157

November 2: Analyzing the Movement

Nagel -255

November 9: Red Power in Canada

McFarlane -152

November 16: First Nations and Indigenous Peoples

McFarlane -305

~~November 23:~~ Thanksgiving Vacation

November 30: A Literary Epilogue

Armstrong -254

December 7: Course Conclusions