

Revised: Fall 2011  
Spring 2012  
Fall 2012  
Fall 2013  
Fall 2014  
Fall 2015  
Fall 2016

# HUM 215

## Native American Culture

### COURSE OUTLINE

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:**

Surveys the cultural history of Native (Indian) peoples in the Americas from the pre-Columbian era until the present. Studies history, religion, literature, arts, life-ways and world-views which comprise the diverse traditions of Native peoples.

**Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3**

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# HUM 215: Native American Culture

## Course Outcomes:

**At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Identify distinct cultural areas, social characteristics, and historical development of Native American peoples.
- Identify historical roots of modern Native American culture
- Identify the unique historical pressures which still shape Native people today
- Identify the development of Native American identity for the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries

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# HUM 215: Native American Culture

## Required Materials:

1. Textbooks
2. Internet access
3. Blackboard

## Textbook:

1. Neihart, John G.: *Black Elk Speaks*, Dramatic Pub Co., 1996. ISBN# 978-1-438-42540-5
2. Noley, Homer: *First White Frost*, Abingdon Press, 1991. ISBN# 978-0-687-13051-1
3. Deloria, Vine: *Red Earth, White Lies*, Fulcrum Publishing, 1997 ISBN# 978-1-555-91388-5

## The following supplementary materials are available (optional):

1. Deloria, Vine: *God is Red: A Native View of Religion*, Third Ed., Putnam Publishing, 2003
2. *Custer Died for Your Sins*, Reprint Ed., Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1988
3. Mankiller, Wilma: *Mankiller: A Chief and Her People*, St. Martin's Press, 1993
4. Mooney, James: *The Ghost Dance...*, Univ. of Nebraska Press, 1991

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## Topical Description:

1. The Nature of Native American Culture
  - a. Methodological Difficulties
  - b. Multitude of Cultural Roots
  - c. Reasons to Pursue this Study
2. Paleolithic Roots
  - a. Moundbuilders
  - b. Ancient Ancestors (Anasazi)
  - c. Early City Civilizations
3. Seven Cultural Areas
  - a. Northeast
  - b. Southeast
  - c. Desert Southwest
  - d. Plains
  - e. California and Great Basin
  - f. Northwest
  - g. Arctic
4. Pre-Modern Worldview
5. Native American Cultural Attitudes
  - a. The circle of seasons
  - b. Storytelling
  - c. Cosmology
  - d. Warriors, women, children, and elders
  - e. Ethics
6. Modern Developments
  - a. Pan-Indianism
  - b. Music and the arts
  - c. Messianic Movements
  - d. Social ills and signs of hope

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