Comparative Conquests, Colonization, and Resistance in the Americas

Ethnic Studies 259
Winter 2003
Wednesday 9 – noon, SSB 233

Course materials available at: http://weber.ucsd.edu/~rfrank

Course Description

The course will offer a comparative survey of the impact of European interactions with Native nations and populations in the New World, from Peru to Canada. Readings will emphasize modes of initial interaction, patterns of European colonization and Native adaptation and resistance, and broader changes in Native culture and cosmology as a result of conquest and colonization.

The readings will provide a basis for you to develop a historiographical framework for considering the study of situations of colonial contact in the Americas. Among the important facets of your framework will be responses to the following:

- How have authors used and read different sources and incorporated methodologies?
- Where does theory enter works about the colonial enterprise in the New World?
- How do historical and academic voices normalize conceptions of space, race, sexuality, and gender?
- How can colonized and subaltern voices, meaning, and perspectives emerge from historical study?
- How do and how should cosmology and religion fit within these studies?

Evaluation

Seminar assignments will consists of:

1) group discussions of the weekly readings in the seminar meeting;
2) extra readings presentations;
3) two seminar presentations over the quarter (or a research paper option);
4) and two papers in which you engage the material from the week chosen above (3) in comparison with readings from previous weeks.

Individual work will be evaluated as follows:

A. Discussion and seminar presentations make up 50% of the grade.
B. The two written papers make up 50% of the grade, weighted equally.

I am happy to meet to give periodic evaluations of your work in the seminar; you may also make appointments at any time.
Syllabus

Readings are marked according to the following:

R on reserve online at: http://reserves.ucsd.edu
G available at Groundwork Bookstore.

Week 1: Introduction and course organization

Week 2: Mexico – Aztec and Maya


Week 3: Peru – Inka


Week 4: Northern Mexico and the US Southwest


Week 5: The Great Lakes / Woodlands


Week 6: Northeast US - Iroquois


Week 7: Southeast, Colonial and Beyond – Choctaw and Catawba


Week 8: Southern Plains and Southwest - Comanche


Week 9: Alternative Epistemologies


  “Introduction: Borders and Borderlands”, 1221.
  Christopher Ebert Schmidt-Nowara, “Borders and Borderlands of Interpretation”, 1226-1228.


Week 10: Late Conquest - Hawaii

Liliuokalani, Queen of Hawaii, *Hawaii’s story by Hawaii’s queen, Liliuokalani*. Published Boston, Lee and Shepard, 1898, 1-9, 226-288, 376-393. R

