Representing Native America (Part 1)

Ethnic Studies 114A
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Fall 2014
Center 207
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class materials may be viewed at: http://pages.ucsd.edu/~rfrank

This course provides an introduction to the history and theory of museum representation of American Indians in order to explore its relation to colonialism and decolonization. In addition to a wide-ranging look at the complex foundations of systems of representing Indians and Indianness, a study of the art of Native California will allow the class to create new approaches to designing a museum exhibition.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Course evaluation will be based on a midterm essay and classroom presentation, a written final research project and classroom presentation, in-class discussions throughout the quarter, and some guiding assignments along the way. Final grade will be based on the following: 25% - attendance and participation during in-class activities; 25% - midterm essay and presentation; 25% research project presentation; 25% - final project report.

COURSE OBLIGATIONS

All students must attend all class meetings and read the assigned materials in order to complete this course. You have a responsibility to create an environment conducive to learning during class meetings and discussion, and to abide by the UCSD Principles of Community. Attendance and participation in discussions held throughout the quarter will count for part of your class grade. These in-class discussions cannot be made up.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are listed in the syllabus for the day that they are due: October 14, November 4, November 11. The Midterm Examination consists of a written essay (5 pages) and an in-class presentation. The Final Examination will consist of an individual or team research project, presented in class, and the written component due during the scheduled exam period.

ASSIGNED READING

The following required book has been ordered for the course and is available at the Bookstore. It has also been placed on reserve in the Geisel Library:


Other readings assigned are available at: http://dss.ucsd.edu/~rfrank or in Roger.
SYLLABUS

The reading(s) that follow each date should be completed before that class meeting. Please come to class prepared to discuss these assigned readings.

PART I  The Colonial Roots of Representation

WEEK 0 OCTOBER 2  Introduction and Course Organization

WEEK 1 OCTOBER 7  The Problem of Art


OCTOBER 9  Collecting, Museums, and the Nation State


WEEK 2 OCTOBER 14  Museum of the American Indian Roots


PART II  The Decolonizing Project

OCTOBER 16  Disruptive Histories


WEEK 3  OCTOBER 21  Alternative Epistemologies


MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED

OCTOBER 23  Reading Absences

WEEK 4 OCTOBER 28 Midterm Reports

MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT DUE

PART III Problems of the Present

OCTOBER 30 Thinking About Tribal Museums


Exhibit Press Articles folder

WEEK 5 NOVEMBER 4 NMAI - Take I


ASSIGNMENT: Native Women Artists in California

NOVEMBER 6 NMAI - Take II


Lonetree, Amy. *Decolonizing Museums Representing Native America in National and Tribal Museums*. 2012, Chapter 4, 123-167. Restricted to UCSD.
WEEK 6    NOVEMBER 11       NMAI - Take III


ASSIGNMENT: Native California Women Artists

PART IV    What To Do With Native Women’s Art in California

NOVEMBER 13       California Historical Beginnings


WEEK 7    NOVEMBER 18    An Art Historical View
(Chapter 7: Native Art From 1900-1980 [The Twentieth Century]), 242-291 [208-239].


ASSIGNMENT: Assemble Final Project Teams and begin to define areas of research.

NOVEMBER 20    Native California “Arts and Crafts”


WEEK 8    NOVEMBER 25    The Tourist and the Captive


NOVEMBER 27    THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

WEEK 9    DECEMBER 2    Contemporary Native Art Perspectives


DECEMBER 4    Arts of Survivance

PART V  Conclusions

WEEK 10  DECEMBER 9  Class Presentations and Discussions I

DECEMBER 11  Class Presentations and Discussions II

FINAL PROJECT DUE  FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2:30PM