



GEOG 435/835 Cultural Survival: Indigenous Peoples' Rights 2007

Course Information

More than 500 years after Columbus instigated European colonialism, creating the first global world order, Indigenous peoples are still responding to threats against their lands, resources and cultural patrimony, including their languages and knowledge systems. This course will explore the varied responses of Indigenous peoples to the imposition of Western dominated economic and political systems. The course will take a thematic approach, addressing diverse issues such as land rights, economic development and women's rights, looking at these issues from the perspective of many different Indigenous communities around the world.

Assignments are geared toward encouraging and testing learning through a variety of methods and allow students to tailor the course to their individual learning needs. Assignments will be explained fully in class along with supporting handouts.

Asst. Professor Jay T. Johnson

Oldfather Hall 934

Phone 472.1944

e-mail jjohnson18@unl.edu

GEOG 435/835 Aims	Geog 435/835 is aimed at providing students with a background into the issues of Indigenous communities taking a thematic approach toward investigating these issues.
Learning Outcomes	It is intended that students will gain a critical perspective into relevant issues of Indigenous peoples with specific regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aspects of how Indigenous peoples are defined and defining themselves internationally, • how Indigenous peoples are enacting their self-determination over resources and lands, • investigating the crucial issues faced by Indigenous peoples in controlling various aspects of daily life.
Hours	<p>Classes are on Wednesdays from 6:00 – 8:20pm in Oldfather 827. They are not proposed as a delivery medium of information but rather as a platform for engagement with the subject through information sharing, discussion and debate. The format for seminars is participatory! Everyone is expected to participate in discussion, debate and small group work. This cannot be achieved without regular attendance. Therefore, as in any upper-division class, each student is expected to attend each class, unless unable to do so through illness (in which case it is normal practice to notify the instructor).</p> <p>You will also be expected to spend a reasonable amount of time reading and thinking about readings. You may want to consider working in small study groups. You will also spend time doing fieldwork and archival research for the portfolio/journal and field assignments.</p> <p>My office hours are Tuesdays 9-10am and Wednesdays 1-2pm.</p>
Reading, reading, reading!	Each week's readings will be contained either in the required text (Ronald Niezen. 2003. <i>The origins of indigenism: human rights and the politics of identity</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press.) or will be provided in class. Many of the readings throughout the course can be accessed on two websites; first Cultural Survival Organization (http://209.200.101.189) and its publications and second the International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs (http://www.iwgia.org).
Assessment	<p>The assessment for this course comprises:</p> <p>25% Indigenous Communities presentations – September 27th</p> <p>35% Paper on a thematic topic – November 8th</p> <p>40% Final Exam – essay questions – Wednesday, December 13th 8:15 – 10:15pm</p> <p>Detailed instructions for the assignments will be given in class.</p> <p>Late assignments should be negotiated with the instructor otherwise they will lose one grade per day.</p> <p>Grading scale: 100-97% = A+, 96-93% = 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-, 60% and below = F</p>
Plagiarism	You are encouraged to discuss your readings, ideas and assignment work with others – in fact this will be a crucial part of your learning in GEOG 435/835. The written work that you hand in, however, must be in your own words. Always reference ideas, quotations, diagrams and maps to the source as missing references constitute plagiarism. Plagiarism results in an automatic zero grade (with a right of appeal).

GEOG 435/835

Timetable

2008

Class date	week	Wednesdays 6-8:20pm Oldfather 827
Aug 23	1	Introductions and Introduction to 'Indigenism' Readings – Indigenous definitions from the IWGIA
Aug 30	2	The Origins of Indigenism Readings – A New Global Phenomenon? And The Origins of the International Movement of Indigenous Peoples in Niezen, Ronald. 2003. <i>The origins of indigenism : human rights and the politics of identity</i> . Berkeley: University of California Press.
Sept 6	3	Identity and Rights Readings – Sources of Global Identity and Relativism and Rights in Niezen, Ronald. 2003. <i>The origins of indigenism : human rights and the politics of identity</i> . Berkeley: University of California Press.
Sept 13	4	The Politics of Resistance Readings – The New Politics of Resistance in Niezen, Ronald. 2003. <i>The origins of indigenism : human rights and the politics of identity</i> . Berkeley: University of California Press.
Sept 20	5	Indigenism, Ethnicity and the State Readings – Indigenism, Ethnicity, and the State and Conclusion in Niezen, Ronald. 2003. <i>The origins of indigenism : human rights and the politics of identity</i> . Berkeley: University of California Press.
Sept 27	6 First Assignment Due	Indigenous Peoples In-class presentations of the history and current issues of various Indigenous peoples around the world.
Oct 4	7	The International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 28 Issue 3
Oct 11	8	Indigenous Gender and Sexuality Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 28 Issue 4 – the video “Honored by the Moon”
Oct 18	9	Indigenous Peoples, Violent Conflict and Militarization Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 29 Issue 1
Oct 25	10	Land Rights: Two Issues – Mining and National Parks Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 28 Issue 1 And Indigenous Affairs No. 4/2004
Nov 1	11	Sustainable Development and Fair Trade

		Readings – Indigenous Affairs No. 4/2001 And <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 29 Issue 3
Nov 8	12	Education and Language Preservation
	Second Assignment Due	Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 27 Issue 4 Guest Lecture via tele-conference by Dr. Helen Hayward of the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ
Nov 15	13	Water Rights, Neoliberalism and Revolution
		Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 29 Issue 4
Nov 22		Thanksgiving Break
Nov 29	14	Intellectual Property Rights
		Readings – <i>Cultural Survival Quarterly</i> Volume 24 Issue 4
Dec 6	15	Evaluation and exam review
Dec 13	8:15 – 10:15PM	Final Exam