

McGill University
HIST 223 - Natives of the Americas
Winter 2014

Location: Arts Building W-120
Class times: M/W/F 12h35 – 1h25pm

Course Director: Dr. Daniel Rueck
Email: daniel.rueck@mcgill.ca
Office: Ferrier Building, Room 331
Office Hours: Monday 2h30 – 4h30 or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:
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Course Description

HIST223 is a non-exhaustive introduction to the history Indigenous peoples in the western hemisphere and is designed to offer students samples of the histories of the societies that inhabit the Americas and colonialism they experienced. The course addresses a number of themes through an investigation of questions relating to indigeneity and colonialism in the pre-contact and colonial periods, and introduces students issues that are still reverberate today. Seeing as this is an introductory course, it will include discussions about historical sources, methodologies, and academic writing.

Format

This course gives students the opportunity to study Indigenous histories through lectures, readings, guest speakers, films, and small-group discussions. Shorter films will be shown in class whereas longer films will be screened outside of class time and made available for personal viewing at the library if not online. Lectures will be held on Monday and Wednesday classes, as well as a few Fridays. There are assigned readings each week, which will form the starting point for Friday conference discussions. Students are expected to do the assigned readings before conferences.

Conferences (Tutorials)

Conferences are discussion-sections during which the class is broken into smaller groups, each under the leadership of a teaching assistant. The purpose of these sessions is to allow students to discuss readings and lectures in ways that are not possible in the classroom. Students will be required to select a conference section on Minerva before the add/drop deadline and must note the time and place of the conference. Student grades for conferences are determined based on attendance and participation. Please inform your TA in advance if you will be absent for a serious reason.

Reading Journal

In addition to completing the required readings, students must maintain a reading journal that includes notes, quotations, and personal reflections derived from the assigned texts. The journal

is not expected to be a perfectly edited, cohesive text. It is an informal record of what you found to be most interesting and most important in the readings, and what you thought about them. Journals can be handwritten or typed. They will be graded either as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Journals covering the first six reading assignments must be submitted to TAs during the Feb. 21 conference, and journals for the rest of the readings are due on Apr. 4.

mycourses

The HIST223 site on Mycourses will be used to provide links to required readings and access to other items related to the course. Anything posted on mycourses is provided for your personal use only. Feel free to make use of the "discussion" feature to ask each other questions, exchange information, and post responses to issues that have been raised by the class. You may also want to share information about helpful books, videos, websites, articles, and films related to the histories of Indigenous peoples and colonialism.

Email Communication

Aside from consulting the mycourses site, it is very important that you check your McGill email account regularly because course announcements will be sent to you in that way. If you have simple questions to ask me feel free to send me an email, but for anything requiring more than a one-sentence response, please visit me during office hours.

Grading

Reading Journal (due Feb. 21 and Apr. 4)	10%
Research Essay (due Mar. 31)	35%
Conference Participation	20%
Final Exam	35%

The exam (held during the April exam period, date TBA) will cover lectures, guest lectures, conference discussions, and required readings.

Assignment Submission

The Research Paper and Reading Journals must be submitted in paper format at the beginning of the class or conference. A paper will be considered late if it is submitted after the class/conference has begun. You may submit your late papers/journals by slipping them under my office door (Ferrier 331). Email submissions will not be accepted.

Late Papers

A penalty of 2% per working day will be deducted from late essays and reading journals. This penalty may be waived in the event of unforeseen emergencies such as illness (please note that a heavy work load for other classes does not qualify as an unforeseen emergency). If your essay is late and you believe you should not be penalized, please attach a note of explanation along with any supporting documentation you think appropriate. The late penalty will be waived, in part or in whole, as seems justified. Extensions cannot be granted in advance.

Official McGill Policies

“In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.”

"McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures." For more information:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/>

Course Books

There is no textbook for this course. You are required to read a number of specialized articles, book chapters and documents, all of which are available online. Links will be provided on mycourses.

Course Outline

1. Mon Jan. 6 Introduction
2. Wed Jan. 8 Indigenous Peoples, Colonialism
3. Fri Jan. 10 Origins

Reading Assignment: Mann, Charles C. "1491." *The Atlantic*. March 2002.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2002/03/1491/302445/>

4. Mon Jan. 13 Mesoamerica
5. Wed Jan. 15 The Andes
6. Fri Jan. 17 Conference 1: Conquest and Colonization

Reading Assignment:

Clendinnen, Inga. "Fierce and Unnatural Cruelty: Cortés and the Conquest of Mexico," *Representations* 33 (1991), 65-100.

Townsend, Camilla. "Burying the White Gods: New Perspectives on the Conquest of Mexico." *The American Historical Review* 108, no. 3 (2003): 1-27.

7. Mon Jan. 20 Guest Lecture: D. Studnicki-Gizbert – Mining
8. Wed Jan. 22 Corn
9. Fri Jan. 24 Conference 2: Colonialism and Resource Extraction

Reading Assignment:

Haskett, Robert S. "'Our Suffering with the Taxco Tribute': Involuntary Mine Labor and Indigenous Society in Central New Spain." *The Hispanic American Historical Review* 71, no. 3 (1991): 447-475.

Robins, Nicholas A. *Mercury, Mining, and Empire: The human and ecological cost of colonial silver mining in the Andes*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2011. Chapter 1 (pp. 13-46).

10. Mon Jan. 27 Guest Lecture: L. Corbeil – Colonialism and Migrations
11. Wed Jan. 29 Indigenous Peoples and Colonialism: South America
12. Fri Jan. 31 Conference 3: Colonialism & Indigenous Societies in S. America
Reading Assignment: Schwartz, Stuart B. and Frank Salomon. "New Peoples and New Kinds of People: Adaptation, Readjustment, and Ethnogenesis in South American Indigenous Societies (Colonial Era)." In *The Cambridge history of the native peoples of the Americas. Volume III: South America. Part 2*, edited by Stuart B. Schwartz and Frank Salomon, 443-501. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.
13. Mon Feb. 3 Caribbean
14. Wed Feb. 5 Guatemala Highlands
15. Fri Feb. 7 Conference 4: Indigenous Women in Latin America
Reading Assignment: Kellogg, Susan. *Weaving the Past: A history of Latin America's indigenous women from the prehispanic period to the present*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. Chapters 2 and 3 (pp. 18-89)
16. Mon Feb. 10 Indigenous Peoples and Colonialism: Central America
17. Wed Feb. 12 "The Columbian Exchange"
18. Fri Feb. 14 Conference 5: van den Bogaert's travels in Mohawk Country
Reading Assignment: van den Bogaert, Harmen Meyndertsz. *A Journey into Mohawk and Oneida Country, 1634-1635: The Journal of Harmen Meyndertsz van den Bogaert*. Translated by Charles T. Gehring and William A. Starna. Edited by Charles T. Gehring and William A. Starna. Syracuse, New York: Syracuse University Press, 2013, Introduction (pp. xix-xi) and van den Bogaert's journal (pp. 1-54)
19. Mon Feb. 17 Epidemics and Depopulation
20. Wed Feb. 19 Iroquoia and Huronia
21. Fri Feb. 21 Conference 6: War and Diplomacy in Iroquoian Societies
(Reading Journal due)
Reading Assignment:
 Magee, Kathryn. "'They are the Life of the Nation': Women and war in traditional Nadouek society." *Canadian Journal of Native Studies* 28, no. 1 (2008): 119-138.
 Muller, Kathryn V. "The Two 'Mystery' Belts of Grand River: A Biography of the Two Row Wampum and the Friendship Belt." *American Indian Quarterly* 31, no. 1 (2007): 129-164.

22. Mon Feb. 24 "The Middle Ground"
23. Wed Feb. 26 Iroquoian Politics and Government
24. Fri Feb. 28 Conference 7: Colonial Law and Indigenous peoples in New France and Upper Canada
- Reading Assignment:**
 Grabowski, Jan. "French Criminal Justice and Indians in Montreal, 1670-1760." *Ethnohistory* 43, no. 3 (1996): 405-429.
 Haring, Sidney L. "A Condescension Lost on Those People': The Six Nations' Grand River Lands, 1784-1860." In *White Man's Law: Native people in nineteenth-century Canadian jurisprudence*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press for The Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History, 1998. Chapter 2 (pp 35-61)

Mar. 3-7 Reading Week

25. Mon Mar. 10 Part 1: Indigenous peoples and settlers in New England
 Part 2: Presentation on library research – Eamon Duffy
26. Wed Mar. 12 Guest Speaker: J. Bishop – Indigenous peoples and missionaries
27. Fri Mar. 14 Conference 8: After the Middle Ground
- Reading Assignment:**
 Richter, Daniel K. *Facing East from Indian Country: A Native history of early America*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001. Chapter 6 (pp. 189-236)
 Paxton, James. "Merrymaking and Militia Musters: Mohawks, Loyalists, and the (re)construction of community and identity in Upper Canada." *Ontario History* 102, no. 2 (2010): 218-238.
28. Mon Mar. 17 Indigenous Spiritualities and Colonialism
29. Wed Mar. 19 Extinction Narratives and Colonial Realities
30. Fri Mar. 21 Conference 9: Essay Clinic
- Reading Assignment:**
 Pierre H. Boule, "Student's Guide to History Papers and to Bibliographical and Note Styles" www.mcgill.ca/files/history/EssayGuide.pdf
 Paul Hayward, "How to Write a Good History Essay" <http://www.lanacs.ac.uk/staff/haywardp/hist213/writing.html>

31. Mon Mar. 24 Indigenous Peoples of the North American West
32. Wed Mar. 26 Indigenous Peoples of the North American West
33. Fri Mar. 28 Conference 10: Indigenous peoples and colonialism in the West
Reading Assignment:
 Pekka Hamalainen, "The Rise and Fall of Plains Indian Horse Cultures," *Journal of American History* 90 (Dec. 2003): 833-62.
 Nobles, Gregory H. "Straight Lines and Stability: Mapping the political order of the Anglo-American frontier." *The Journal of American History* 80, no. 1 (1993): 9-35.
34. Mon Mar. 31 Pacific Coast (**Research Essay Due**)
35. Wed Apr. 2 Arctic
36. Fri Apr. 4 Conference 11: Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Resistance
(Reading Journal due)
Reading Assignment:
 Wolfe, Patrick. "Settler colonialism and the elimination of the native." *Journal of Genocide Research* 8, no. 4 (2006): 387-409.
 Alfred, Taiaiake, and Jeff Corntassel. "Being Indigenous: Resurgences against Contemporary Colonialism." *Government and Opposition* 40, no. 4 (2005): 597-614.
37. Mon Apr. 7 Guest Lecture: J. Thistle – Colonialism and Intergenerational Trauma
38. Wed Apr. 9 TBA
39. Fri Apr. 11 Conclusion