

Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

History 3680: The Native Aspect of Canada's History before 1850

Instructor: Dr. Duff Crexar Office: C 216
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Introduction:

This course explores the experience of native peoples in Canada's history from first European contact to the generation of the 1830's. Through lectures, case studies and discussion of selected readings, the class examines and evaluates the interaction between European and native peoples during the colonial period in the light of the policies, interests and objectives of both native and newcomer groups. The course places special emphasis on Indian involvement in the fur trade, the development of European imperial and "civilizing" policies and the first attempts of native peoples to direct their destiny in the face of European incursion. Besides a mid-term test and the final examination, students will write one brief critical essay and one longer research paper on a topic of their choice.

Textbooks:

Trigger, Bruce. Natives and Newcomers: Canada's Heroic Age Reconsidered. McGill-Queen's, 1976.

Miller, J.R. Skyscrapers Hide the Heavens. Rev. edition. U. of T. Press, 1991.

Miller, J.R. (Ed.) Sweet Promises: A Reader on Indian-White Relations in Canada. U. of T. Press, 1991.

*Fisher, R.A. and Coates, K. Out of the Background: Readings on Canadian Native History. Toronto: Copp Clark Pitman, 1988. (Copy on RESERVE)

*Getty, I.A. and Lussler, A.S. As Long as the Sun Shines and Water Flows: A Reader in Canadian Native Studies. Vancouver: U.B.C. Press, 1979. (Copy on RESERVE)

NBB: Highly Recommended:

Harris, R. Cole and Matthews, Geoffrey, Historical Atlas of Canada, Vol. 1: From the Beginning to 1800. Toronto: U. of T. Press, 1987.

Dickason, Olive Patricia, Canada's First Nations, Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1992.

Course Outline:

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September 2, 1992: Beginnings

- Introduction: Earliest Native Peoples
SOURCE: Historical Atlas of Canada, Vol. 1,
plates 1-2, 4-6.
OPTIONAL: A. McMillan, Native Peoples and
Cultures of Canada, pp. 19-30, OR Dickason,
Chapter 1.

September 4, 1992: Trip to Saskatoon Mountain,
(meet at statue, 11 a.m.)

Week One: Prehistory

Monday: Labour Day Holiday

Wed. - Ethnohistory: Straight Thinking and Crooked Ideas
READ: Bruce Trigger, in Fisher and Coates,
Out of the Background, pp. 19-44.
OPTIONAL: Trigger, Natives, Chapter 1, OR
Dickason, Introduction.

Fri. - The Eastern Woodlands and Maritimes
READ: Trigger, Natives, Chapter 2; ALSO
Historical Atlas of Canada, Vol. 1, plates
7-9, 12, 14, 18.
OPTIONAL: A. McMillan, Native Peoples and
Cultures of Canada, pp. 31-48, 87-108 RESERVE
OR Dickason, Chapter 2, 4.

Week Two : Prehistory

Mon. - The Prairies
READ: McMillan, pp. 114-143, 212-230 OR
Dickason, "A Reconstruction for the Northwestern
Plains", Prairie Forum, V, n 1, 1981, pp. 19-37
also xerox RESERVE
ALSO: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 7-10,
14-15, 18.

Wed. - The Mountains and Pacific Coast
READ: McMillan, pp. 148-166, 170-204, ALSO:
Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 7-9, 13-15,
18.

Fri. - Northern Peoples
READ: McMillan, 239-267 and Historical Atlas, Vol.
1, plates 9, 11, 14-15, 18.

Week Three: First Contacts

- Mon. - Earliest Encounters
 READ: P. Schledermann, in National Geographic, May, 1981, pp. 574-601. PERIODICALS, also Fitzhugh, in William Fitzhugh, Cultures in Contact, pp. 19-43.
 RESERVE
 CONSULT: Historical Atlas, plates 16, 19, 22.
 OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 5.
- Wed. Cartier and his hosts
 READ: Trigger, Chapter 3 and Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 19, 22, also Miller, Skyscrapers, chapter 1.
 OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 6.
- Fri. Champlain and his legacy
 READ: Trigger, Chapter 4, Historical Atlas, plate 36 and Miller, Chapter 2.

Week Four : Huronia and Quebec

- Mon. Trade and Alliance
 READ: Trigger, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 88-101 AND Trigger, Chapter 6, Historical Atlas, plate 33.
- Wed. Missions
 READ: Historical Atlas, plate 34, Jaenen, in Canadian Issues: Religion, pp. 182-197
 RESERVE, and Jaenen, in Fisher and Coates, 102-133.
- Fri. Huronia Divided
 READ: Trigger, Chapter 5, pp. 226-259, Also Trigger, in Sweet Promises, pp. 3-18.
 CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plate 34.

Week Five : War, Trade and Empire

- Mon. The French-Iroquois Dynamic
 READ: The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy, pp. 127-152 RESERVE
 CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 37-38.
 OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 10.
- Wed. Huronia Destroyed
 READ: Trigger, Chapter 5, pp. 259-297 and Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plate 35.
 OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 8.

Fri. Colonial Policy

READ: Jaenen, in Sweet Promises, chapter 2.
Also CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plate 47, and Miller, chapter 3.
OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 11.

Week Six : End of an Era

Mon. Thanksgiving Holiday

Wed. Mid-Term Test

Fri. New France and the Micmacs

READ: Dickason, in Sweet Promises, pp. 45-57 and Historical Atlas, plates 24 and 42.
OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 7.

Week Seven: British North America

Mon. Seven Years of War and the Royal Proclamation

READ: R.S. Allen, "The British Indian Department" in Canadian Historic Sites, N 14, pp. 7-22.
Also Getty and Lussier, pp. 29-37 RESERVE.
CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 40-42.
OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 12.

Wed. Case Study: Pontiac's Rebellion

READ: DCB, Vol. III, pp. 525-531, Also Vol. IV, pp. 408-410 REFERENCE, and Miller, chapter 4.
Also CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plate 44.

Fri. Warriors Betrayed?: 1776-1806

READ: Graymont in Sweet Promises, pp. 93-104, and DCB, Vol. IV, pp. 416-419, and Vol. V, pp. 803-812.
Also, History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy, Chapters 2 and 3.

Week Eight: War, Settlement and Empire

Mon. Warriors Betrayed?: Tecumseh and Black Hawk

READ: Stanley, in Sweet Promises, pp. 105-125, and DCB, Vol. V, pp. 795-801 REFERENCE
OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 15.

Wed. British Colonizers and Transition

READ: Miller, Skyscraper, chapters 5-6.

Fri. The British Reserves

READ: Surtees, in Getty and Lussier, pp. 65-84
and in Historical Essays on upper Canada, pp.
262-276. RESERVE

OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 17.

Week Nine : Paternalism and Extinction

Mon. British Missions and the Canadas

READ: Barron, in Getty and Lussier, pp. 191-202 and
Grant, Moon of Wintertime, Chapter 4, RESERVE

Wed. Case Study: Conversion or Renewal?

READ: DCB, Vol. VIII, pp. 439-443, also
also Antony Wallace, in Handbook of North American
Indians, Vol. 15, pp. 442-448. REFERENCE

OPTIONAL: D.B. Smith, Sacred Feathers, pp. 1-65
RESERVE

OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 16.

Fri. Extinction

READ: Upton, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 45-65

Week Ten : Co-operation in the Western Fur Trade

Mon. Trade with the Bay

READ: Ray, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 134-149; and
Rich, in Sweet Promises, pp. 157-179

CONSULT: Historical Atlas, plates 57, 59-62.

OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapter 9.

Wed. Native-Trader Relations in the Interior

READ: Sloan, in CHR, LX, Sept, '79, pp. 281-299
PERIODICALS

CONSULT: Historical Atlas, plates 61-62.

OPTIONAL: Dickason, Chapters 13-14.

Fri. Case Study: Native Women in the Fur Trade

READ: Van Kirk, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 150-166
and in Sweet Promises, pp. 180-205.

Week Eleven: The New Peoples and the Plains

Mon. Strangers in Blood

READ: Brown, Strangers in Blood, pp. 123-152,
199-220, and Van Kirk, in Brown and Peterson,
New Peoples, pp. 207-217. RESERVE

Wed. Remembrance Day Holiday

Fri. Red River and the New Nation

READ: Stanley, Birth of Western Canada, Chapter 1 RESERVE, also Miller, Chapter 7.

CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 64-65.

Week Twelve: The West Coast

Mon. Contact and Co-operation by Sea

READ: Robin Fisher, Contact and Conflict, pp. 1-23 RESERVE; also Miller, Chapter 8.

CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plates 66, 69.

Wed. The Land Contact

READ: Fisher, pp. 24-48. RESERVE

Fri. The Transition to Coercion

READ: Fisher, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 167-189 and Fisher, Contact and Conflict, pp. 48-72 RESERVE

Week Thirteen: Controversy

Mon. Prairie Contacts: Cree and Blackfoot

READ: John S. Milloy, The Plains Cree, pp. 1-82 RESERVE

CONSULT: Historical Atlas, Vol. 1, plate 57.

Wed. Northern Approaches

READ: McMillan, pp. 251-267 AND Kaplan in Fitzhugh, Cultures in Contact, pp. 45-69; also Taylor, "Moravian Influence on Labrador Inuit", in Approaches to Native History in Canada, pp. 16-29 RESERVE

Fri. Native Peoples and Ecology

READ: Martin, in Fisher and Coates, pp. 66-87 AND Trigger and Bishop in S. Krech, Indians, Animals and the Fur Trade, pp. 21-58.

Week Fourteen: End of Freedom?

Mon. Coercion

READ: Tobias and Milloy, in Sweet Promises, p. 127-156.

Wed.

Fri.

Final Class: December 7, 1991. Retrospect and Assessment.

Final Exam: To be Announced

Course Format and Philosophy:

The course consists of short lectures, discussions and student debates, based on the readings for each class. The lectures will identify and discuss the most significant events and issues of the week and also serve as guides to text readings, relating them to the course themes. Tests will be short answer in nature, while the final examination will consist of both short answer and essay type questions. All essay topics will be discussed and cleared with me before final submission. An attendance and participation mark will be given, based on consistent class attendance and taking part in the class discussions or simulations. Late assignments will be penalized 10% each day overdue, UNLESS you have spoken with me in advance. Any students having trouble with their assignments or the course are encouraged to contact me as soon as possible -- after class, by contacting me in the office or calling me at home (between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., if possible!) at 539-7764. I am always willing to help in any way I can.

Marking Scheme:

Short Essay	(eight pages)	15
Mid-term Test	(in class)	20
Research Essay	(twelve pages)	25
Attendance and Participation		10
Final Examination		30

		100