HIST 407/507  
Seminar: Native Nations and U.S.  
Spring 2011  
Instructor: Jeff Ostler  
Class Hours: R, 2:00-4:50  
Office Hours: W, 3:00-4:00  
R, 11:00-12:00  
or by appointment  
301 McKenzie Hall  
Phone: 346-1265  
email: jostler@uoregon.edu  

About the Seminar:

The purpose of this seminar is to provide advanced history majors and graduate students with an opportunity to engage in an in-depth research project using primary sources. The seminar will be divided into three parts. In the first, students will read a series of articles and do a few exercises as a way of becoming familiar with the topic of this seminar and as a way of identifying possible topics and sources for specialized research. In the second part, students will do the actual research for their papers and write a rough draft. In the final part of the seminar, students will critique one another’s rough drafts within small groups and revise their own drafts accordingly.

Readings (all items are available on Blackboard except #12, which can be purchased at the Duck Store):


Course Requirements:

1. Participation and regular attendance. Failure to make a good faith effort to participate and attend regularly will result in a failing grade for the seminar. If emergencies/illness arise, be sure to contact me. If you are in danger of failing, I will let you know. Otherwise, I will give you a grade for participation, which will count 1/4 of your total grade for the seminar. In addition to routine participation, there will be four formal requirements:

   a. Lead a discussion, along with one of your colleagues, of one of the assigned readings during weeks two, three, or four.

   b. An oral presentation of between 6-8 minutes on your topic to be given in class on April 28.

   c. An oral presentation of between 6-8 minutes recounting the history of writing your paper to be given in class on June 2.

   d. A ten-minute assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of a draft of one your colleagues (these will take place in small group sessions during the last two weeks of class).

2. A two-page statement of the topic you have chosen along with a one- or two-page annotated bibliography of primary and secondary sources. Due Wed., April 20, at noon in my office. Failure to complete a satisfactory statement will result in a failing grade for the seminar.
3. A two-page outline of your paper. Due Monday, May 9, at 5:00 p.m. in my office Failure to complete a satisfactory outline will result in a failing grade for the seminar.

4. A research paper of from 20 to 25 pages in length (exclusive of bibliography and notes), due Wed. June 8, by 5:00 p.m. (in my office). The paper will be worth 3/4 of your grade for the seminar. Graduate students enrolled in 507 will be required to write a paper of between 25 and 30 pages.

Schedule:

3/31: Overview of the seminar; introduction to the general topic of Native Nations and the United States
Readings: Hoxie, Wilkins, Prucha, Duthu

4/7: Library session with Victoria Mitchell (focus on government documents); further consideration of the general topic for the seminar; topic selection
Readings: Owens, Kelman, Rampolla, pp. 1-19

4/14: Further consideration the general topic; paper topic selection
Readings: DeMallie, Rand, Madley

4/20: Paper topic summary and bibliography due (by noon in my office)

4/21: Introduction to writing a research paper

Individual meetings, 4/22-4/26

4/28: Presentation and discussion of paper topics

5/5: Writing a research paper
Reading: Rampolla, 49-65, 86-93

5/9: Outline due (by 5:00 p.m., in my office)

5/12: Discussion of research problems; documentation; commentary on draft of Ostler paper (to be circulated in advance)
Reading: Rampolla, 94-132

Individual meetings, 5/13-5/17

5/19: No class

Weeks of 5/23 & 5/30: small group sessions on drafts

6/2: Presentations on the histories of the papers

PAPER DUE: June 8, by 5:00 p.m., in my office