Course Description: This course is to provide students with an introduction to the cultural diversity and complexity of Native American societies of the Greater Southwest. Using an ethnohistorical perspective, the cultural heritage and the unique histories of select Native American societies will be examined in detail. Course content will emphasize the cultural processes that shaped indigenous cultures of this region and their histories.

Course Objectives: 1. Students will evaluate documents within a historical and/or cultural framework about Southwestern indigenous peoples; 2. Students will synthesize ideas and information with regard to historical causes, the course of events, and their consequences about indigenous societies of the Greater Southwest; 3. Students will analyze human behavior, ideas and institutions for historical and cultural meaning and significance.

Required Readings:

Recommended Readings: The following works are highly recommended supplemental reading for the course. It is a book that offers new perspectives, insights, or provides a basis a cross-cultural comparison. The texts will enrich your knowledge and breadth of the region, the peoples, and their historical experiences.


Course Requirements: There will be two exams during the course. The midterm will consist of short identifications and an essay (100 points). The final will be the same format and worth the same number of points. The grading system is a straight point system. There are not any negotiations for points to another grade category.

Extra credit: A student wishing to do extra credit can write a book review using one or more of the recommended readings. The paper is due the final day of lecture. No late papers will be accepted. The assignment will be worth 15 points for each review.