Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide students with an in-depth introduction to the diversity and complexity of Native American societies that came to inhabit the state of Montana as part of the Northwestern Great Plains. Using an ethnohistorical and ethnological approach, the course examines the culture history of various Native American nations within the region, highlighting the social processes that shaped their lives prior to the advent of the reservation era. The course also examines each society’s social and cultural institutions to form a cross-cultural comparative perspective.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will evaluate data within a diachronic and cultural framework about indigenous peoples of Montana to understand socio-cultural diversity;
2. Students will synthesize ideas and information with regard to historical causes, course of events, and their consequences for Montana’s indigenous societies to interpret human activities;
3. Students will analyze human behavior, ideas, and institutions comparatively to derive an historical and cultural perspective of intercultural complexities and perspectives.

Face-to Face Safety Instructions:

Please carefully read and comply with the instructions so we may have a safe instructional environment:

- Mask use is required within the classroom.
- Each student is provided with a cleaning kit. The expectation is that you will clean your personal work-desk space when you arrive for class, and before you leave the classroom.
- Classrooms may have one-way entrances and exits to minimize crowding. Please routinely use them.
- Students are discouraged from congregating outside the classroom before and after class.
- Specific seating arrangements will be used to ensure social distancing and support contact tracing efforts.
- Class attendance will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts.
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom (which requires mask removal).
- Know the nearest “refill” stations for cleaning supplies/hand sanitizer. Use them as necessary.
- If the class is being recorded, students must be notified of the recording.
- Stay home if you feel sick and/or if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you are sick or displaying any symptoms, please contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.
- Up-to-Date COVID-19 Information can be accessed from the University of Montana website. Refer to:
  - UM Coronavirus Website: https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus
  - The university strongly encourages students to remain vigilant outside the classroom in mitigating the spread of COVID-19
**Required Reading:**

**Recommended texts:** The following works are highly recommended supplemental readings for the course. They are books that offer either a new perspective, insight, or provide a basis for cross-cultural comparison. These texts will enrich your knowledge and breadth of the region, the peoples, their cultural, and historical experiences.

Daschuk, J., *Clearing the Plains*. University of Regina Press (Possible 35 points).

Lowe, Denise and Ramon Powers, *Northern Cheyenne Ledger Art by Fort Robinson Breakout Survivors*. University of Nebraska Press. (Possible 35 points).


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

**Course Requirements:** Each student will be responsible for all reading and lecture material for in-class discussion and exams. There will be two exams. Each exam will be worth 100 points each. The test's format will be discussed in class prior to the exam. **Grading is on a straight point system. There is no negotiation for points to raise your grade.** If you did not receive the grade you want on the midterm, consider doing the extra credit.