

Chapter 1 : Tribal Nations & the United States: An Introduction | NCAI

This book is the cornerstone of my library on contemporary Native America. As a Quinault-Cowlitz woman who has struggled with maintaining her identity in a world hungry for John Wayne's Indians with feathers, I found this work a profound relief from most of what is available.

Their descendants explored along the west coast of North America. As early as BC, they had covered nearly the entire continent. It is not known when the first people arrived in the Americas. Some archaeologists scientists who study the remains of past human lives believe it might have been about BC. Over thousands of years, as they migrated across the continents, American Indians have developed a wide range of languages, customs, and civilizations. There are as many different tribal nations in the Americas as there are nations in Europe, Asia, or Africa, and there is as much variety among them. Ten thousand years ago, when the Ice Age ended, changes in climate and increasing populations inspired some Native American tribes to experiment with growing different crops. Some became highly skilled farmers. As early as about BC, tribes in Mexico cultivated corn and squash. They raised turkeys, llamas, and guinea pigs for food and they hunted deer and bison. They regularly burned off patches of land to keep it in pasture, so the animals would come to graze. Many tribes on the coasts hunted sea mammals from boats and caught fish, using a variety of efficient methods. After BC, some Native Americans developed states, each governing thousands of people. They established extensive trade routes across the continents. And they used cargo rafts and other boats to ship their goods from one trading point to another. In South America, llamas provided transportation on land. From the present-day region of the mid-western United States to southern Peru in South America, centers of government were marked by enormous mounds of earth. Most of these mounds were flat on top, with palaces and temples built on them. Some were burial sites of honored leaders. American Indian cities were as big as the cities in Europe and Asia at that time. Their fine architecture is still greatly admired. The Europeans brought diseases with them, including smallpox and measles. These unfamiliar diseases spread quickly among Native Americans. They wiped out the populations of many native cities. The Europeans started colonizing the Americas in order to cultivate new farmlands and create new jobs for the growing populations of Europe. To do so, they often fought Native American tribal nations for the land. Several factors gave the Europeans the advantage in these conflicts. First, they had some immunities to their own diseases. Thus they were not as devastated by them as Native Americans were. Native American tribal nations resisted colonization, but eventually, many were forced to surrender their lands. In the regions of present-day southern Canada, the United States, and southern South America, survivors were gathered up and involuntarily moved to specific areas, called reservations. In Mexico, Central America, and northern South America, the native people were forced to live as peasants and laborers, under Spanish rule. In the last few decades, developments in transportation and earth-moving machinery have made it profitable for outsiders to colonize the tropical lowland forests. Now the way of life for those tribal nations, too, is threatened. Today Native American populations across both continents are once again on the rise. Native American leaders are achieving greater political success in fighting for the rights of their peoples. In addition, recent widespread concern over human rights has prompted governments and others to respect Native American cultures and traditions when responding to their needs.

Chapter 2 : The Biggest Native American Population in Every State - 24/7 Wall St.

This unprecedented anthology has quickly become the classic text for all who want to understand the problems confronted by native people in North America.

Kelly Robinson When stereotypes of modern Native Americans are brought forward, these usually manifest themselves in visions of poor Indians living on reservations, which are on lands no one else wanted. Modern Native Americans are often stereotyped as drunks or succumbing to the pressure of gamblers to open their reservations to casinos. One place to start in order to disprove these stereotypes is the statistical data. What follows is not an interpretive essay in the classic scholarly vein, but an informative one that provides a picture of the state of Native America at the end of the Twentieth Century based on current statistical data. Most German students receive very little information on the first inhabitants of what is now the United States. In Germany, as in the United States, high school students learn about the society of the land whose language they are studying. However, the most-used textbook for German students of English devotes only a handful of pages to Native Americans. Two sections of the English G: However, within this particular section, approximately three pages address Native Americans in general and approximately five more pages provide information on the Navajo in more depth. While the book provides some basic facts about Native peoples, much of this is generalization that may apply to one group but not to another. One of the unstated purposes of this section of the Native American section of the book is to make the students look at the stereotypes of Native Americans and correct them. Eight pages of total text can only do so much and fails to provide the student with the breadth that is Native America. The United States government does as well. The census, and other organizations who also need to make statistical calculations based on race, use five main categories of racial classification: To which group one belongs is usually a matter of self-identification, a method that the U. Bureau of the Census uses. It does not have the same connotation as the modern Nation-State as a European would think of it; a geopolitical entity defined by a given land base and centralized government but perhaps featuring an ethnically heterogeneous rather than homogeneous population. The political characteristics of the government are, in this case, more or less irrelevant. The most recent successful petitioners for recognition were the Pokagon Potawatomi Indians of Indiana and Michigan, who received their official status as a tribal entity in 1975. In the same year, Americans of all ethnic groups numbered almost million. Indians, the first Americans, are a minority among the minorities. While the projected growth rate between 1980 and 2000 for white Americans is only 6. For the general population, the birthrate is 1.8. The median age of Americans in general is 32. In contrast, the median age of Native Americans is 24. Some tribes have gained in population more than others. The largest tribe in the United States today is the Cherokee Nation, with 260,000 members as of the 1990 census. The second largest tribe in the U. The Yaqui tribe of Arizona still rank within the top twenty-five largest tribes in the United States, despite a population that, as of 1990, was only 9,000. This figure is close to double the 1950 census, however, which recorded only 5,000 Yaquis. None of the top twenty-five largest tribes in the United States reported a decrease in population between 1950 and 1990. Most Native American tribes, indeed the majority of the Native American population, live west of the Mississippi River. Most reservations are located in the west of the United States. Most tribes who live on sections of their original homelands reside in the west. Tribal land ownership east of the Mississippi River comprises a total of almost 2. Individually-owned land that comes under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs adds approximately 100 million acres. In the west, the tribes own over 43 million acres of land and individual land ownership, again under BIA jurisdiction, affixes 10 million acres to this amount. The United States Congress, during the presidency of Andrew Jackson, gave the executive carte blanche to remove those tribes who still remained east of the Mississippi. There were indeed many tribes and a fairly large population in the east, though precise figures are not available. During the period 1800 to 1850, ninety-five treaties of removal were signed between the U. Many of these treaties were signed under duress or by individuals who did not represent the majority of the tribe. By 1850, very few Native Americans remained in the east and most of those either lived in hiding, such as those who are now known as the Eastern Band of the Cherokee, or fighting against removal, such as group of the Seminole. Of the total Native American population, 80% live in rural area

areas with less than 2, people and slightly over 1. During the war, many people left the reservations to either enter the armed forces or to find work in the booming factories of the war-time. During this period, thousands of Native American families were moved to cities, especially western cities such as Los Angeles. The United States has one of the highest median household incomes in the world, ranking sixth. In the United States, the percentage of households headed by women in general in the United States was approximately 45, while the general unemployment rate was 5. However, unemployment, like population or most other statistics, varies according to region and reservation. This low unemployment rate, consistent with the national average, is understandable considering the location of the reservation. Albuquerque is a large city and Santa Fe maintains a thriving tourist trade. Cochiti reaps the benefits of both economic situations. Also in the Southwest is the Ute Mountain Reservation. The northern Great Plains offer very little in the way of economic possibilities to those who live there, especially on the reservations. Employment and employability are directly related to educational level. If one chooses to go beyond the high school level, either to a vocational technical college or a university, then education at this level must be paid for by the student. The long-term benefits of higher education, however, outweigh the short-term disadvantages of having to pay for that education. The job market seeks skilled, educated workers and the more skills one has, the better off one is. This poverty is reflected in Native American health statistics. The leading causes of death among Native Americans, regardless of sex, are heart disease and cancer, the same as for the population as a whole. But among Native American men, accidents rank with heart disease as the two major causes of death. Many other causes of death among Native Americans have much higher rates than within the general population. Among Native Americans it is tuberculosis. The statistics gathered by the United States government and summarized here reflect a Native American population that is younger and growing at a faster rate than the general U.S. However, the same statistics also point to the poverty, education and health problems among Native Americans. In this sense, some of the stereotypes of Native Americans are indeed true. Indians, in general, are more likely to live in poverty than other racial groups in the United States. They are less educated than other Americans. They are also more likely to die of poverty-related diseases or other causes than the majority of Americans. These statistics, however, also reflect two hundred years of governmental confusion about what to do with Native Americans; how the tribes should be treated, how much invested should be put into the reservations, or indeed if the reservations should be kept at all. It is not the purpose of the present issue of the *American Studies Journal* to attempt to offer solutions to the many problems of Native Americans at the beginning of the 21st Century. It is, though, the purpose of this issue to examine some of these problems within the historical context. To solve a problem, one must first acknowledge that the problem exists. The statistics summarized here show that problems exist. The next step is to come to an understanding of the origins of the problem. But statistics can only tell one so much about Native Americans. The statistics do not answer some questions, though they can help illuminate others. In the following section, we will take a look at some of the more ethereal questions that many have about Indians—“who they are and how do they live. These are not simple questions to answer, however. One question that often comes to mind, at least in the United States in the present day, is what to call Native Americans. Throughout this paper, I have used both Native American and Indian interchangeably. Columbus, so the story goes, thought he had landed in India when he actually landed on a Caribbean Island. In these days of political correctness in the U.S. Over the years, the native peoples of the western hemisphere have been called Indians, Native Americans, American Indians, Amerindians, and other general, but none-too-satisfactory terms. Indian, and the other general terms, are artificial constructs to group disparate peoples. Only recently have Native Americans begun to think of themselves as more than simply members of their own specific tribes. Indian or Native American, as general terms, have much in common with the terms European, African or Asian. Peoples of those continents think of themselves as members of a greater union, but only in a general way. A German would think of himself as German first, European second. So it is with Native Americans, as well. The tribe comes first in thoughts of self-identification. I asked a graduate school colleague once how she thought of herself, as Indian or Crow. She replied that she was first and foremost Crow, but that Indian worked as a more general idea. A recent debate on the H-Amindian discussion list also highlights this debate. Most list members saw the need for a general term to denote the

aboriginal peoples of the Americas, but reiterated that, when speaking about a specific group or to a member of a specific group, the name of that group should be used. If someone thinks of themselves as belonging to a given group, then that person is of that group. If someone thinks of themselves as Indian or German, then that person is of that group. However, others of that group might not see self-identified persons in the same light.

Chapter 3 : Native American State Names

0; I'd wager that most people (including me, until now) aren't aware that over half the states that make up the union we call the United States are actually Native American words for the land or the people that White settlers simply adopted as they spread across the West.

Native Americans form an ethnic group only in a very general sense. In the East, centuries of coexistence with whites has led to some degree of intermarriage and assimilation and to various patterns of stable adjustment. In the West the hasty expansion of Native American culture areas Comparative studies are an essential component of all scholarly analyses, whether the topic under study is human society, fine art, paleontology, or chemistry; the similarities and differences found in the entities under consideration help to organize and direct research programs and exegeses. The comparative study of cultures falls largely in the domain of anthropology , which often uses a typology known as the culture area approach to organize comparisons across cultures. The culture area approach was delineated at the turn of the 20th century and continued to frame discussions of peoples and cultures into the 21st century. A culture area is a geographic region where certain cultural traits have generally co-occurred; for instance, in North America between the 16th and 19th centuries, the Northwest Coast culture area was characterized by traits such as salmon fishing, woodworking, large villages or towns, and hierarchical social organization. The specific number of culture areas delineated for Native America has been somewhat variable because regions are sometimes subdivided or conjoined. The 10 culture areas discussed below are among the most commonly used—the Arctic, the Subarctic, the Northeast, the Southeast, the Plains, the Southwest, the Great Basin, California, the Northwest Coast, and the Plateau. Notably, some scholars prefer to combine the Northeast and Southeast into one Eastern Woodlands culture area or the Plateau and Great Basin into a single Intermontane culture area. Each section below considers the location, climate, environment , languages, tribes, and common cultural characteristics of the area before it was heavily colonized. Prehistoric and post-Columbian Native American cultures are discussed in subsequent sections of this article. A discussion of the indigenous peoples of the Americas as a whole is found in American Indian. The Arctic This region lies near and above the Arctic Circle and includes the northernmost parts of present-day Alaska and Canada. The topography is relatively flat, and the climate is characterized by very cold temperatures for most of the year. Distribution of Arctic peoples. The Arctic peoples of North America relied upon hunting and gathering. Winters were harsh, but the long hours of summer sunlight supported an explosion of vegetation that in turn drew large herds of caribou and other animals to the inland North. On the coasts, sea mammals and fish formed the bulk of the diet. Small mobile bands were the predominant form of social organization; band membership was generally based on kinship and marriage see also Sidebar: The Difference Between a Tribe and a Band. Dome-shaped houses were common; they were sometimes made of snow and other times of timber covered with earth. Fur clothing, dog sleds, and vivid folklore, mythology, and storytelling traditions were also important aspects of Arctic cultures. The topography is relatively flat, the climate is cool, and the ecosystem is characterized by a swampy and coniferous boreal forest taiga ecosystem. Distribution of American Subarctic cultures. Their traditional languages are in the Athabaskan and Algonquian families. Small kin-based bands were the predominant form of social organization, although seasonal gatherings of larger groups occurred at favoured fishing locales. Moose, caribou, beavers, waterfowl, and fish were taken, and plant foods such as berries, roots, and sap were gathered. In winter people generally resided in snug semisubterranean houses built to withstand extreme weather; summer allowed for more mobility and the use of tents or lean-tos. Snowshoes, toboggans, and fur clothing were other common forms of material culture. See also American Subarctic peoples. The topography is generally rolling, although the Appalachian Mountains include some relatively steep slopes. The climate is temperate, precipitation is moderate, and the predominant ecosystem is the deciduous forest. There is also extensive coastline and an abundance of rivers and lakes. Distribution of Northeast Indians. The traditional languages of the Northeast are largely of the Iroquoian and Algonquian language families. Most Northeastern peoples engaged in agriculture, and for them the village of a few dozen to a few hundred persons was the most

important social and economic unit in daily life. Groups that had access to reliably plentiful wild foods such as wild rice , salmon, or shellfish generally preferred to live in dispersed hamlets of extended families. Several villages or hamlets formed a tribe, and groups of tribes sometimes organized into powerful confederacies. These alliances were often very complex political organizations and generally took their name from the most powerful member tribe, as with the Iroquois Confederacy. Cultivated corn maize , beans, squash, and weedy seed-bearing plants such as *Chenopodium* formed the economic base for farming groups. All northeastern peoples took animals including deer, elk, moose, waterfowl, turkeys, and fish. Houses were wickiups wigwams or longhouses ; both house types were constructed of a sapling framework that was covered with rush matting or sheets of bark. Other common aspects of culture included dugouts made of the trunks of whole trees, birchbark canoes, clothing made of pelts and deerskins, and a variety of medicine societies. See also Northeast Indian.

The Southeast This region reaches from the southern edge of the Northeast culture area to the Gulf of Mexico; from east to west it stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to somewhat west of the Mississippi valley. The climate is warm temperate in the north and grades to subtropical in the south. The topography includes coastal plains, rolling uplands known as the Piedmont , and a portion of the Appalachian Mountains; of these, the Piedmont was most densely populated. The predominant ecosystems were coastal scrub, wetlands, and deciduous forests. Distribution of Southeast American Indian cultures. Perhaps the best-known indigenous peoples originally from this region are the Cherokee , Choctaw , Chickasaw , Creek , and Seminole , sometimes referred to as the Five Civilized Tribes. Traditionally, most tribes in the Southeast spoke Muskogean languages; there were also some Siouan language speakers and one Iroquoian-speaking group, the Cherokee. Most people were commoners and lived in hamlets located along waterways. Each hamlet was home to an extended family and typically included a few houses and auxiliary structures such as granaries and summer kitchens; these were surrounded by agricultural plots or fields. Towns often included large earthen mounds on which religious structures and the homes of the ruling classes or families were placed. Together, each town and its associated hamlets constituted an autonomous political entity. In times of need these could unite into confederacies, such as those of the Creek and Choctaw. People grew corn, beans, squash, tobacco, and other crops; they also gathered wild plant foods and shellfish, hunted deer and other animals, and fished. House forms varied extensively across the region, including wickiups wigwams , earth-berm dwellings, and, in the 19th century, chickees thatched roofs with open walls. See also Southeast Indian.

The Plains The Plains lie in the centre of the continent, spanning the area between the western mountains and the Mississippi River valley and from the southern edge of the Subarctic to the Rio Grande in present-day Texas. The climate is of the continental type, with warm summers and cold winters. Relatively flat short-grass prairies with little precipitation are found west of the Missouri River and rolling tallgrass prairies with more moisture are found to its east. Tree-lined river valleys form a series of linear oases throughout the region. Distribution of North American Plains Indians. The groups who built these communities divided their time between village-based crop production and hunting expeditions, which often lasted for several weeks and involved travel over a considerable area. By horses from the Spanish colonies in present-day New Mexico had become common in the Plains and had revolutionized the hunting of bison. This new economic opportunity caused some local villagers to become dedicated nomads, as with the Crow who retained close ties with their Hidatsa kin , and also drew agricultural tribes from surrounding areas into a nomadic lifestyle, including the Sioux , Blackfoot , Cheyenne , Comanche , Arapaho , and Kiowa. Groups throughout the region had in common several forms of material culture, including the tepee , tailored leather clothing, a variety of battle regalia such as feathered headdresses , and large drums used in ritual contexts. The Sun Dance , a ritual that demanded a high degree of piety and self-sacrifice from its participants, was also found throughout most of the Plains. The Plains is perhaps the culture area in which tribal and band classifications were most conflated. See also Plains Indian.

The topography includes plateaus, basins, and ranges. The climate on the Colorado Plateau is temperate, while it is semitropical in most of the basin and range systems; there is little precipitation and the major ecosystem is desert. The landscape includes several major river systems, notably those of the Colorado and the Rio Grande, that create linear oases in the region. Distribution of Southwest Indians and their reservations and lands. The region was the home of both agricultural and hunting and gathering peoples, although the most common

lifeway combined these two economic strategies. Best known among the agriculturists are the Pueblo Indians , including the Zuni and Hopi. The Navajo and the many Apache groups usually engaged in some combination of agriculture, foraging, and the raiding of other groups. The major agricultural products were corn, beans, squash, and cotton. Wild plant foods, deer, other game, and fish for those groups living near rivers were the primary foraged foods. The Pueblo peoples built architecturally remarkable apartment houses of adobe and stone masonry see pueblo architecture and were known for their complex kinship structures, kachina katsina dances and dolls, and fine pottery, textiles, and kiva and sand paintings. Stone channels and check dams low walls that slowed the runoff from the sporadic but heavy rains were common throughout the Southwest, as were basketry and digging sticks. See also Southwest Indian. It is so named because the surrounding mountains create a bowl-like landscape that prevented water from flowing out of the region. The most common topographic features are basin and range systems; these gradually transition to high intermontane plateaus in the north. The climate is temperate in the north and becomes subtropical to the south. Higher elevations tend to receive ample moisture but other areas average as little as 2 inches 50 mm per year. The predominant ecosystem is desert. Distribution of Numic languages and major groups of Great Basin area Indians. The Great Basin is home to the Washoe, speakers of a Hokan language , and a number of tribes speaking Numic languages a division of the Uto-Aztecan language family. The peoples of this region were hunters and gatherers and generally organized themselves in mobile, kin-based bands. Some of these latter groups also replaced wickiups and brush shelters, the common house forms until that time, with Plains-style tepees ; peoples in the west and south, however, continued to use traditional house forms well into the 19th century. Other common forms of material culture included digging sticks, nets, basketry, grinding stones for processing seeds, and rock art. See also Great Basin Indian. California This culture area approximates the present states of California U. An extraordinary diversity of local conditions created microenvironments such as coasts, tidewaters, coastal redwood forests, grasslands, wetlands, high deserts, and mountains. Distribution of California Indians. Many California peoples eschewed centralized political structures and instead organized themselves into tribelets, groups of a few hundred to a few thousand people that recognized cultural ties with others but maintained their political independence. Some tribelets comprised just one village and others included several villages; in the latter cases, one village was usually recognized as more important than the others.

Chapter 4 : When Native Americans Were Slaughtered in the Name of "Civilization" - HISTORY

Native Americans, also known as American Indians, Indigenous Americans and other terms, are the indigenous peoples of the United States, except www.nxgvision.com are over federally recognized tribes within the US, about half of which are associated with Indian reservations.

Visit Website The reasons for this racial genocide were multi-layered. Settlers, most of whom had been barred from inheriting property in Europe, arrived on American shores hungry for Indian land and the abundant natural resources that came with it. Even more fundamentally, indigenous people were just too different: Their skin was dark. Their languages were foreign. To settlers fearful that a loved one might become the next Mary Campbell, all this stoked racial hatred and paranoia, making it easy to paint indigenous peoples as pagan savages who must be killed in the name of civilization and Christianity. Below, some of the most aggressive acts of genocide taken against indigenous Americans: The Gnadenhutzen Massacre, Captain David Williamson ordered the converted Delawares, who had been blamed for attacks on white settlements, to go to the cooper shop two at a time, where militiamen beat them to death with wooden mallets and hatchets. Ironically, the Delawares were the first Indians to capture a white settler and the first to sign a U. Many treaties negotiated U. Battle of Tippecanoe, The decision by Indiana Territorial Governor and later President William Henry Harrison in to attack and burn Prophetstown, the Indian capital on the Tippecanoe River, while Tecumseh was away campaigning the Choctaws for more warriors, incited the Shawnee leader to attack again. This time he persuaded the British to fight alongside his warriors against the Americans. An inter-tribal conflict among Creek Indian factions, the war also engaged U. Early Creek victories inspired General Andrew Jackson to retaliate with 2, men, mostly Tennessee militia, in early November In desperation, Mvskoke Creek women killed their children so they would not see the soldiers butcher them. As one woman started to kill her baby, the famed Indian fighter, Andrew Jackson, grabbed the child from the mother. Later, he delivered the Indian baby to his wife Rachel, for both of them to raise as their own. The subsequent treaty required the Creek to cede more than 21 million acres of land to the United States. A painting depicting the Trail of Tears, when Native Americans were forced by law to leave their homelands and move to designated territory in the west. Despite being assailed by many legislators as immoral, the bill finally passed in the Senate by nine votes, 29 to 17, and by an even smaller margin in the House. Established in the midst of another and a superior race they must necessarily yield to the force of circumstances and ere [before] long disappear. After a raid of nearby white farms for food turned into a deadly encounter, Dakotas continued raiding, leading to the Little Crow War of , in which settlers, mostly women and children, were killed. President Lincoln sent soldiers, who defeated the Dakota; and after a series of mass trials, more than Dakota men were sentenced to death. While Lincoln commuted most of the sentences, on the day after Christmas at Mankato, military officials hung 38 Dakotas at once the largest mass execution in American history. More than 4, people gathered in the streets to watch, many bringing picnic baskets. The 38 were buried in a shallow grave along the Minnesota River, but physicians dug up most of the bodies to use as medical cadavers. Sand Creek Massacre, On November 29, , a former Methodist minister, John Chivington, led a surprise attack on peaceful Cheyennes and Arapahos on their reservation at Sand Creek in southeastern Colorado. His force consisted of men, mainly volunteers in the First and Third Colorado Regiments. Plied with too much liquor the night before, Chivington and his men boasted that they were going to kill Indians. Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle had tied an American flag to his lodge pole as he was instructed, to indicate his village was at peace. When Chivington ordered the attack, Black Kettle tied a white flag beneath the American flag, calling to his people that the soldiers would not kill them. As many as were massacred, mostly women and children. Two, the women and children offered little resistance. Three, the Indians are bewildered by our change of policy. Burial of the dead after the massacre of Wounded Knee. Ironically, just over years later, the resilient American Indian population has survived into the 21st century and swelled to more than 5 million people.

Chapter 5 : 26 States That Were Named By Native Americans, Was Your State? | Thought Catalog

Native American, also called American Indian, Amerindian, Amerind, Indian, aboriginal American, or First Nation person, member of any of the aboriginal peoples of the Western Hemisphere, although the term often connotes only those groups whose original territories were in present-day Canada and the United States.

What specific set of issues are being considered for research? What social institutions are currently being negotiated? Can you discern an historical evolution of these contemporary set of issues? How is an indigenous-centric view applicable to these issues? Which indigenous and non-indigenous social institutions are being negotiated? How are these issues being articulated from an indigenous perspective, and from what perspectives? How does discourse influence the significance of these issues? What are the historical origins of these discourses? Which sources are embedded within these issues? What are the Levels of Historical Authoritativeness involved in these issues? How will you interrogate and utilize different sources? At what point of negotiation are these issues? How does an indigenous epistemology, time, place, and sensibility play a part in these issues? Where does indigenous historicity exist? What strategies are discernible in regard to these issues? Are there any specialized knowledge systems being employed in the negotiation of these issues? What are the long-term implications of these issues? How are we to become aware of these issues? Why are these issues pertinent to the field of Native American Studies and History? How can you formulate all this into a research oriented, problem-posing question? What are some critical and inherently important questions regarding the applied nature of research and its effort to support an indigenous-centered agenda? Are there any moral or ethical questions regarding this research topic? At any point in time, we can become aware of the State of Native American cultural, tribal, and social institutions. What is the state of Native American health in ? What was the state of tribal colleges in ? What are cultural, tribal, and social institutions? In terms of social institutions, they are related, but sometimes not directly correlated, to the following: How do tribal clan relations influence indigenous land tenure systems? How can indigenous sensibilities be utilized in western research agendas? Can you discern how different social institutions work in conjunction with each other? How does the role of history play a role in answering these questions? How does the State of Native America become problematized by the history of colonialism? All of these social institutions operate within various local, regional, national and international contexts.

Chapter 6 : State of Indian Nations | NCAI

The history of Native Americans in the United States began in ancient times tens of thousands of years ago with the settlement of the Americas by the Paleo-Indians. Anthropologists and archeologists have identified and studied a wide variety of cultures that existed during this era.

State of South Dakota, with seven tribal governments with reservation boundaries, and two others lacking reservation boundaries. According to historians, the Native American tribes of Dakota, Nakota, and Lakota migrated into this land from Minnesota. The primary occupation of the tribes involved herding buffaloes, an animal they hold sacred in their culture. Winter counts spirally arranged drawings on animal hide were used to record their history. They live together in "bands" which are further divided into smaller groups called "tiyospaye" extended family groups. Like many other Native Americans, the Sioux Nation people also regard nature as holy, and always strive to live in harmony with the natural world without disturbing the ecological balance.

New York , Before the arrival of European settlers, the New York region of the past was occupied by two major groups of Native Americans. The territories near the Atlantic coast were occupied by the Mohican and Munsee tribes, who spoke the Algonquian language, and the territories further inland were occupied by Iroquoian tribes, including the Mohawks, Senecas, Onondagas, Oneidas, and the Cayugas. During the struggle between the British and the French for control over the land, the Native American tribes formed allies with the former, which was one of the primary reasons for the ultimate British victory in the region prior to the American Revolution. Currently, the natives of New York occupy such reservations in the state as the Cattaraugus Reservation, the Allegany Reservation, and the St. The natives belonging to these reservations have a diversified economy based on recreation, tourism, construction, and communications. Tax-free cigarette and gasoline sales and gaming casinos are also significant sources of revenue for the native peoples of New York. The ancestors of these people arrived in Alaska thousands of years ago, and settled across the northern reaches of North America. Since these people hardly migrated towards the southern parts, they are not genetically close to the Native Americans of South America. However, these Natives still enjoy the right to harvest marine mammals from the seas around Alaska, as per the Marine Mammal Protection Act of The economy of the Alaska Natives today is primarily based on this and the gathering of other subsistence food stuffs.

Washington , Prior to the arrival of Europeans, Native Americans occupied large areas of land for thousands of years in what is now part of the U. The Northwest Coast Indians and the Plateau Indians were the two culturally distinct groups of Natives occupying territories in the region. Missionaries from Europe were at first welcomed by the natives, as they were able to gain knowledge about the European world from them. As the 19th century drew to a close, most of the Native Americans were pushed to settle in reservations. Three tribal groups, the Coastal Salish, the Interior Salish, and the Sahaptin, formed the primary groups representing the reservations, and many smaller groups were integrated into these three larger ones.

North Carolina , North Carolina has the sixth largest American Indian population in the United States , with , natives occupying the state, as per the most recent U. Eight Indian tribes are recognized by the state. In North Carolina, most of the Indians do not live on reservations, though are still members of state- and Federally-recognized tribes. The invading Europeans gradually eradicated the natives from their Texas homelands so as to occupy their territories. Today, the American Indians of Texas are primarily concentrated within three reservations. The Alabama--Coushatta Indian Reservation, east of Houston, is the largest among the three, and stretches over an area of 4, acres. The other two reservations are located in the valley along the Rio Grande. Tourism forms an important part of the economy of the people of these reservations, and the Kickapoo Reservation also has a casino that is open to outside visitors. The Pueblo Indians were the most peaceful residents of the region, and had a well developed agricultural system. It is estimated that the nomadic tribes of Navajo and Apache Indians, with a more aggressive temperament, arrived much later, in the 15th Century. Currently, the presence of Native Americans is highly visible throughout the state of New Mexico. The 22 tribes of the region live in settlements referred to as "pueblos", such as the Acoma Pueblo, Cochiti Pueblo, Isleta Pueblo, and several others.

Arizona , Arizona has the third largest American Indian population , of all states in the United States.

Each Native American tribe in the state has its own distinct culture, but is united by a common heritage. The Apache, Papago, Navajo, and Yuma are some of the well-known tribes of this region. More than 20 American Indian reservations occupy about one fourth of the entire land of Arizona. These reservations are granted their own rights to make and enforce the laws of their respective lands. Oklahoma , The region of Oklahoma was one of the oldest recorded regions to have settled human occupation in what is now the United States. Its abundant natural resources made it an ideal place for human settlements. The Wichitas, Caddos, Quapaws, and Plains Apaches were the indigenous tribes of the Oklahoma region before the arrival of the Europeans. As a consequence of the cultural changes introduced by the entry of the Europeans, a number of new Native Indian tribes, including the Kiowas, Pawnees, Delawares, and others from the Southeast U. Currently, there are about 39 tribal governments in Oklahoma, with 38 of them being federally recognized. California , With a population of , Native Americans, California has the largest indigenous population in the United Sates. Prior to the time of European arrival in the California region, the natives of the region shared cultural intimacy with those of neighboring areas. As the region was extremely rich in natural resources, competitive pressures among the tribes were low, and they led overall relatively peaceful and sedentary lifestyles. With the arrival of the Europeans, a period of oppression and cultural disintegration followed within the Native communities. The population of these native tribes plummeted down to only 15,, from a probable pre-contact population of , Since the start of the 20th Century, indigenous people living on reservations in California became the norm. The remaining Native Americans settled in these reservations with their own tribal councils to handle legal and social matters within the tribal community. The Native Americans of California in the early 21st Century are hardly distinguishable from other people in the state, on the basis of their lifestyles, jobs, and education. This page was last updated on April 25, By Oishimaya Sen Nag.

Chapter 7 : The State of Native America at the End of the Twentieth Century

Native American tribes and nations in the United States face a range of threats to their sovereignty from federal and state governments, as centuries-old treaty agreements are questioned, and due.

It has been suggested that their culture contributed to political thinking during the development of the later United States government. Their system of affiliation was a kind of federation, different from the strong, centralized European monarchies. The Iroquois invaded and attacked tribes in the Ohio River area of present-day Kentucky and claimed the hunting grounds. By the mid-th century, they had resettled in their historical lands in present-day Kansas , Nebraska , Arkansas and Oklahoma. The Osage warred with Caddo-speaking Native Americans, displacing them in turn by the mid-th century and dominating their new historical territories. It hangs in the United States Capitol rotunda. After European exploration and colonization of the Americas revolutionized how the Old and New Worlds perceived themselves. The subsequent European colonists in North America often rationalized their expansion of empire with the assumption that they were saving a barbaric, pagan world by spreading Christian civilization. They had long-established spiritual and religious traditions and theological beliefs. What developed during the colonial years and since has been a syncretic Catholicism that absorbed and reflected indigenous beliefs; the religion changed in New Spain.

Impact on native populations[edit] Main article: Some scholars characterize the treatment of Native Americans by the US as genocide or genocidal whilst others dispute this characterization. While it is difficult to determine exactly how many Natives lived in North America before Columbus, [40] estimates range from a low of 2. In , the American anthropologist Henry F. Dobyns published studies estimating the original population to have been 10 to 12 million. By , he increased his estimates to 18 million. Smallpox epidemics often immediately followed European exploration and sometimes destroyed entire village populations. In the years following the arrival of the Spanish to the Americas, large disease epidemics depopulated large parts of the eastern United States in the 15th century. The disease swept through Mohawk villages, reaching the Onondaga at Lake Ontario by , and the lands of the western Iroquois by , as it was carried by Mohawk and other Native Americans who traveled the trading routes. Native California Population, according to Cook Census reported , Native Americans in California. For the next 80 to years, smallpox and other diseases devastated native populations in the region. The numbers of indigenes decreased more rapidly after California ceased to be a Spanish colony, especially during the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th see chart on the right. Smallpox epidemics in “ and ” brought devastation and drastic depopulation among the Plains Indians. It was the first federal program created to address a health problem of Native Americans. Sheep, pigs, horses, and cattle were all Old World animals that were introduced to contemporary Native Americans who never knew such animals. Some of the horses escaped and began to breed and increase their numbers in the wild. The early American horse had been game for the earliest humans on the continent. The reintroduction of the horse to North America had a profound impact on Native American culture of the Great Plains. The tribes trained and used horses to ride and to carry packs or pull travois. The people fully incorporated the use of horses into their societies and expanded their territories. They used horses to carry goods for exchange with neighboring tribes, to hunt game , especially bison , and to conduct wars and horse raids. During the war the Iroquois destroyed several large tribal confederacies“including the Huron , Neutral , Erie , Susquehannock , and Shawnee , and became dominant in the region and enlarged their territory. It continued in northern New England primarily on the Maine frontier even after King Philip was killed, until a treaty was signed at Casco Bay in April One in ten soldiers on both sides were wounded or killed. Upon their loss to the Colonists, many managed to flee to the North to continue their fight against the British Massachusetts Bay Colony by joining with the Abanaki Tribes and Wabanaki Federation. Those involved in the fur trade in the northern areas tended to ally with French forces against British colonial militias. Native Americans fought on both sides of the conflict. The greater number of tribes fought with the French in the hopes of checking British expansion. The British had made fewer allies, but it was joined by some tribes that wanted to prove assimilation and loyalty in support of treaties to preserve their territories. They were often

disappointed when such treaties were later overturned. The tribes had their own purposes, using their alliances with the European powers to battle traditional Native enemies. Native American culture began to have an influence on European thought in this period. Some Europeans considered Native American societies to be representative of a golden age known to them only in folk history. Congress passed Concurrent Resolution to recognize the influence of the Iroquois Constitution upon the U. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Gordon Wood wrote, "The English colonists did not need the Indians to tell them about federalism or self-government. The New England Confederation was organized as early as 1643. During the last three decades of the 20th century, scholars of ethnohistory, of the "new Indian history," and of Native American studies forcefully demonstrated that to understand American history and the American experience, one must include American Indians. The painting shows a Native American boy in a blue coat and woman in a red dress in European clothing. During the American Revolution, the newly proclaimed United States competed with the British for the allegiance of Native American nations east of the Mississippi River. Most Native Americans who joined the struggle sided with the British, based both on their trading relationships and hopes that colonial defeat would result in a halt to further colonial expansion onto Native American land. Many native communities were divided over which side to support in the war and others wanted to remain neutral. The first native community to sign a treaty with the new United States Government was the Lenape. The only Iroquois tribes to ally with the colonials were the Oneida and Tuscarora. Frontier warfare during the American Revolution was particularly brutal, and numerous atrocities were committed by settlers and native tribes alike. Noncombatants suffered greatly during the war. Military expeditions on each side destroyed villages and food supplies to reduce the ability of people to fight, as in frequent raids by both sides in the Mohawk Valley and western New York. The expedition failed to have the desired effect: Native American activity became even more determined. S Army soldiers and other casualties at the Battle of the Wabash in 1791 were struck at behest of Virginia governor Thomas Jefferson and carried by Joseph Martin to give to Cherokee allies of colonial forces. Notice peace pipe atop the medal The British made peace with the Americans in the Treaty of Paris, through which they ceded vast Native American territories to the United States without informing or consulting with the Native Americans. The United States initially treated the Native Americans who had fought as allies with the British as a conquered people who had lost their lands. Although most members of the Iroquois tribes went to Canada with the Loyalists, others tried to stay in New York and western territories to maintain their lands. The state established small reservations in western New York for the remnant peoples. The Indians presented a reverse image of European civilization which helped America establish a national identity that was neither savage nor civilized. Europe and the American Moral Imagination [67] After the formation of the United States[edit] The United States was eager to expand, to develop farming and settlements in new areas, and to satisfy land hunger of settlers from New England and new immigrants. The national government initially sought to purchase Native American land by treaties. The states and settlers were frequently at odds with this policy. They often entertained royalty and were sometimes prey to commercial purposes. Christianization of Native Americans was a chartered purpose for some European colonies.

Chapter 8 : An Overview of Native American History | Scholastic

Native American tribal nations resisted colonization, but eventually, many were forced to surrender their lands. In the regions of present-day southern Canada, the United States, and southern South America, survivors were gathered up and involuntarily moved to specific areas, called reservations.

Paleo-Indians and Settlement of the Americas This map shows the approximate location of the ice-free corridor and specific Paleoindian sites Clovis theory. It is not definitively known how or when the Native Americans first settled the Americas and the present-day United States. The prevailing theory proposes that people migrated from Eurasia across Beringia , a land bridge that connected Siberia to present-day Alaska during the Ice Age , and then spread southward throughout the Americas over the subsequent generations. Genetic evidence suggests at least three waves of migrants arrived from Asia, with the first occurring at least 15 thousand years ago.

Pre-Columbian era The pre-Columbian era incorporates all period subdivisions in the history and prehistory of the Americas before the appearance of significant European influences on the American continents, spanning the time of the original settlement in the Upper Paleolithic period to European colonization during the Early Modern period. Native American cultures are not normally included in characterizations of advanced stone age cultures as " Neolithic ," which is a category that more often includes only the cultures in Eurasia, Africa, and other regions. They divided the archaeological record in the Americas into five phases; [23] see Archaeology of the Americas. According to the oral histories of many of the indigenous peoples of the Americas, they have been living on this continent since their genesis, described by a wide range of traditional creation stories. Other tribes have stories that recount migrations across long tracts of land and a great river, believed to be the Mississippi River. Archeological and linguistic data has enabled scholars to discover some of the migrations within the Americas. The Clovis culture , a megafauna hunting culture, is primarily identified by the use of fluted spear points. Artifacts from this culture were first excavated in near Clovis, New Mexico. The culture is identified by the distinctive Clovis point , a flaked flint spear-point with a notched flute, by which it was inserted into a shaft. Dating of Clovis materials has been by association with animal bones and by the use of carbon dating methods. Recent reexaminations of Clovis materials using improved carbon-dating methods produced results of 11, and 10, radiocarbon years B. Linguists, anthropologists, and archaeologists believe their ancestors comprised a separate migration into North America, later than the first Paleo-Indians. They constructed large multi-family dwellings in their villages, which were used seasonally. People did not live there year-round, but for the summer to hunt and fish, and to gather food supplies for the winter.

Archaic period in the Americas Since the s, archeologists have explored and dated eleven Middle Archaic sites in present-day Louisiana and Florida at which early cultures built complexes with multiple earthwork mounds ; they were societies of hunter-gatherers rather than the settled agriculturalists believed necessary according to the theory of Neolithic Revolution to sustain such large villages over long periods. The Formative, Classic and post-Classic stages are sometimes incorporated together as the Post-archaic period, which runs from BCE onward. The Hopewell tradition was not a single culture or society, but a widely dispersed set of related populations. They were connected by a common network of trade routes, [34] [35] This period is considered a developmental stage without any massive changes in a short period, but instead having a continuous development in stone and bone tools, leather working, textile manufacture, tool production, cultivation, and shelter construction. Their gift-giving feast, potlatch , is a highly complex event where people gather in order to commemorate special events. These events include the raising of a Totem pole or the appointment or election of a new chief. The most famous artistic feature of the culture is the Totem pole, with carvings of animals and other characters to commemorate cultural beliefs, legends, and notable events. A map showing approximate areas of various Mississippian and related cultures. The Mississippian culture was a mound-building Native American civilization archeologists date from approximately CE to CE, varying regionally. The civilization flourished from the southern shores of the Great Lakes at Western New York and Western Pennsylvania in what is now the Eastern Midwest , extending south-southwest into the lower Mississippi Valley and wrapping easterly around the southern foot of the Appalachians barrier range

into what is now the Southeastern United States. The Iroquois League of Nations or "People of the Long House" was a politically advanced, democratic society, which is thought by some historians to have influenced the United States Constitution , [38] [39] with the Senate passing a resolution to this effect in . It hangs in the United States Capitol rotunda. After , European exploration and colonization of the Americas revolutionized how the Old and New Worlds perceived themselves. Many of the first major contacts were in Florida and the Gulf coast by Spanish explorers. Population history of indigenous peoples of the Americas From the 16th through the 19th centuries, the population of Indians sharply declined. The most well-known example occurred in , when Sir Jeffery Amherst , Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the British Army , wrote praising the use of smallpox-infected blankets to "extirpate" the Indian race. Blankets infected with smallpox were given to Native Americans besieging Fort Pitt. The effectiveness of the attempt is unclear. Andrew White of the Society of Jesus established a mission in what is now the state of Maryland , and the purpose of the mission, stated through an interpreter to the chief of an Indian tribe there, was "to extend civilization and instruction to his ignorant race, and show them the way to heaven. The same records report that in , "a school for humanities was opened by our Society in the centre of [Maryland], directed by two of the Fathers; and the native youth, applying themselves assiduously to study, made good progress. Maryland and the recently established school sent two boys to St. Omer who yielded in abilities to few Europeans, when competing for the honor of being first in their class. So that not gold, nor silver, nor the other products of the earth alone, but men also are gathered from thence to bring those regions, which foreigners have unjustly called ferocious, to a higher state of virtue and cultivation. During the war the Iroquois destroyed several large tribal confederacies, including the Huron , Neutral , Erie , Susquehannock , and Shawnee , and became dominant in the region and enlarged their territory. In , the Sisters of the Order of Saint Ursula founded Ursuline Academy in New Orleans , which is currently the oldest continuously operating school for girls and the oldest Catholic school in the United States. From the time of its foundation, it offered the first classes for Native American girls, and would later offer classes for female African-American slaves and free women of color. Those involved in the fur trade tended to ally with French forces against British colonial militias. The British had made fewer allies, but it was joined by some tribes that wanted to prove assimilation and loyalty in support of treaties to preserve their territories. They were often disappointed when such treaties were later overturned. The tribes had their own purposes, using their alliances with the European powers to battle traditional Native enemies. Some Iroquois who were loyal to the British, and helped them fight in the American Revolution , fled north into Canada. For the next eighty to one hundred years, smallpox and other diseases devastated native populations in the region. It was the first federal program created to address a health problem of Native Americans. Some of the horses escaped and began to breed and increase their numbers in the wild. As Native Americans adopted use of the animals, they began to change their cultures in substantial ways, especially by extending their nomadic ranges for hunting. The reintroduction of the horse to North America had a profound impact on Native American culture of the Great Plains.

Chapter 9 : Largest Native American Population in Every State - 24/7 Wall St.

A group of Native Americans look at a sailing ship in the bay below them. (Credit: Corbis/Getty Images)
ADVERTISEMENT. spreading to two dozen tribes across 16 states, and threatening efforts.