HIST 692D – INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES
Th 2:30-5:00 pm
Herter 640

This course examines the history of Indigenous peoples “in” museums and archives as both subjects of study and display and as curators, researchers, donors, artists, activists, and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. Our scope moves from local to global, including a consideration of how the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples may affect current practices. Coursework includes two short papers based and a research project.

Required Reading

The following books are available at Amherst Books. Other readings are posted on moodle or on reserve in the DuBois Library.


Additional readings will be posted on moodle.
Assignments:

Paper #1  Note that the readings for Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 28 and Mar 28 include reports that require a different style of reading than academic books and articles. Choose one of these days and write a 7-8 page paper that discusses and synthesizes the report with the other readings. These papers are due one week after the class for which they are assigned.

Paper #2  Write a review of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center in 1000 words or less, engaging with reading and discussion to date as you see fit. Due Feb 28.

Paper #3  Research paper, 20-25 pages, on a topic of your choice that relates to this course. Papers are due on the last day of class, April 25. Be prepared to give a 10 minute presentation as though you were at a professional conference.

Evaluation

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SCHEDULE

Th Jan 24  **Introduction – What’s wrong with this picture?**
- Film: *The Couple in the Cage* (2006)
- Document: Silas T. Rand, “Legends of the Micmacs,

Th Jan 31  **Starting the Conversation**

Th Feb 7  **Reclaiming the Pioneer Valley as Indigenous Homeland**
- Browse: *Raid on Deerfield: The Many Stories of 1704*

Th Feb 14  **Material Culture: A Curator’s Dilemma and Delight**
*Guest: Steve Cook, former Curator for the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center*
  <http://www.common-place.org/vol-01/no-01/lessons/>
Assignment: Visit the [Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center](http://www.mashamuseum.org) in CT during the week. It takes about 4 hours to see all the exhibits. Allow time to check out the research library. If possible, interview the librarian or archivist about their holdings. Write a review of the museum in 1,000 words or less that might be submitted to an academic journal. Due by Feb 28.

**Feb 28**  
**Decolonizing Museums: U.S.**  

**Mar 07**  
**Indigenizing Museums: Canada**  

**Mar 14**  
**Crafts and National Identity: Mexico**  
Guest: Rick Lopez, Amherst College  

**Spring Break March 16-24**  
- Road trip to [American Philosophical Society](http://www.amphilsoc.org), National Museum of the American Indian in **DC** or **NY**….. details to be determined in class.

**Mar 28**  
**Repatriation**  
Guest: Sonya Atalay, Anthropology Dept., UMass Amherst*  
* Note: we will meet on a different day of the week TBA.  
Th Apr 04  National Parks and Monuments  
*Guest: David Glassberg, History Dept., UMass Amherst*  

Th Apr 11  Thinking about Place, Space, and Language  
*Guest: Lisa Brooks, Amherst College*  

Th Apr 18  Archives and Classification Systems  
*Guest: Rob Cox, Head, Special Collections and University Archives, UMass  
Guest: A. Brian Deer, creator of the Brian Deer Classification System*  
- READ: [Brian Deer Classification System website](MacDonell, Tagami and Washington)  
READ: [Brian Deer Classification System](MacDonell, Tagami and Washington)  
READ: [TLAM Project blog entry 4-22-11](MacDonell, Tagami and Washington)  
[Tribal Library Toolkit](MacDonell, Tagami and Washington)

Th Apr 25  Last Class  
- Presentations