



Community Education

Native American? Indigenous? Indian? What do you know about Tribes?

Instructor:

Jhon Kuppens, Enrolled Member of Gabrielino-Tongva Indian Tribe, a California Indian Tribe known as the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians.

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Course Description:

Do you want to enhance your basic understanding of American Indian tribes: tribal histories, tribal sovereignty, federal trust responsibility, tribal rights, and historical trauma?

Increasingly individuals as well as governments, non-profit organizations, and private corporations find themselves working with tribal governments yet, so few are aware of tribal culture, Indian law, tribal jurisdiction and values.

Learn from a broad yet specific overview of American Indian tribes and their status in the United States.

Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking this course, students will:

1. Gain a basic understanding and history of American Indian tribes, including tribes in the Pacific Northwest.
2. Discover the history of treaties between tribal nations and England, France, Spain and United States.
3. Learn about tribal sovereignty and tribal rights
4. Understand the Federal government federal trust responsibility
5. Be introduced to federal Indian law, the body of law recognizing and limiting the sovereignty of tribal governments.
6. Realize the complexity of Tribal jurisdiction and its intersection with federal, state and local laws.
7. Begin to grasp the historical trauma and its impact on Indigenous peoples.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: History of American Indian tribes, including PNW tribes and treaty history

Week 2: Tribal sovereignty, tribal rights and the federal trust responsibility

Week 3: Federal Indian law, tribal jurisdiction, and historical trauma.

Week 1: History of American Indian tribes, including PNW tribes and treaty history

- A. How many tribes in the United States?
- B. How many tribes in the Pacific Northwest
- C. How many treaties did the United States sign with tribes? Which countries signed treaties with tribes.
- D. **Week 2:** Tribal sovereignty, tribal rights and the federal trust responsibility
- E. What is tribal sovereignty? Where does it come from?
- F. What are tribal rights? Where does it come from?
- G. What is federal trust responsibility? Why is it required?

Week 3: Federal Indian law, tribal jurisdiction, and historical trauma.

- H. What is Federal Indian law? Is it limited in power?
- I. Tribal jurisdiction. What is it? Why is it important?
- J. Tribal historical trauma. What is it? Is it real? Does it matter?

About Jhon: Jhon was born in Los Angeles County, the home of his Ancestors. He is an Enrolled Member of the Gabrielino-Tongva Indian Tribe, A California Indian Tribe known as the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians. His tribe is the only State recognized tribe in Los Angeles and Orange Counties in Southern California.

He earned a master's in legal studies in Indigenous Peoples Law from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science from Washington State University with Concentrations in History, Political Science and Criminal Justice with a Minor in American Indian Studies, and an Associates of Arts from Clark College. He has collaborated with Federally recognized tribes in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, Nevada, Arizona and California.

Selected Bibliography/Resources:

1. Nichols, Roger L., ; American Indians in U.S. History, 2nd Edition
2. Wilkinson, Charles, ; Messages from Frank's Landing
3. Wilkins, David E.; Lomawaima, K. Tsanina, ; Uneven Ground, American Indian Sovereignty and Federal law
4. Ruby, Robert H., ; Brown, John A., ; Collins, Cary C., ; Trafzev, Clifford E., ; Kincade, M. Dale; Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest

Class Evaluation: Class evaluations are sent by email. Sometimes the email will be delivered to your "junk mail," but we can assure you it's from Clark College only. Your responses are completely anonymous. If you do not see your evaluation immediately after class, look in your junk mail and send it to your email address. If you do not receive an evaluation please Call 360.992.2939.

Inclement Weather:

If the College cancels due to icy conditions you can find this on the college website www.clark.edu ~ If Community Education concludes that the weather is too hazardous we may also decide to cancel this class. In that case you will receive both a phone call and email. Make certain that we have your correct contact information by viewing the class roster.

Looking for classes? Visit our Community Education webpage:

www.clark.edu/cce/