

COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Prepared by: Holly Oakleaf
Status: Experimental

Date: Spring 2006
Expires: 200910

A. Identification:

1. Subject Area: Religious Studies
2. Course Number: REL 200
3. Course Title: Native American Religions
4. Credit Hrs: 3
5. Catalog Description:

This course is designed to give a brief overview of the history, experiences, and religious traditions of the Native Americans of the Americas. The survey provides a sufficient knowledge base upon which to build further study and will familiarize students with basic patterns and issues in the study of Native religious traditions. Three lecture. May be taken for S/U credit.

B. Course Goals:

To familiarize students with Native American religions and traditions of North America, South America, and Central America, and to provide students with the tools of religious studies scholarship and research.

C. Course Outcomes:

Students will:

1. Compare and contrast Native American religious traditions.
2. Explain the values, belief systems, and issues of Native American religious traditions.
3. Critique basic approaches to the study of Native American religions and evaluate their merits and deficiencies.
4. Discuss attitudes brought to the study of Native American religious traditions from both critical and non-critical perspectives.
5. Construct a critical analytical approach to the study of Native American religions through reading, discussion and research.
6. Evaluate the social, political and justice issues involved of Native American religions.

D. Course Content:

Will include:

1. The hermeneutic issues involved in understanding religion across cultures
2. Conceptions of cosmological, teleological, and ontological arguments of indigenous peoples
 - a. Arctic Native American
 - b. Central American Native American
 - c. South American Native American
 - d. North American Native American
3. Indigenous peoples' symbols and symbolism
4. Indigenous peoples' creation stories and myths
5. The interchange between indigenous peoples' religion and culture
6. Tradition and change in indigenous peoples' religions