Course Description:
This course has two main objectives:
1) Assist students living in the newly developed Native American Theme Program with their transition to student and academic life at Cal. Guest speakers who will identify campus resources, programs and activities to promote a successful academic experience will be introduced in the beginning of the semester. Students will learn to identify their strengths, approach academic tasks and improve study skills for a deeper understanding of their learning process.
2) Introduce students to a greater understanding of the Native American experience/culture through a political, historical and contemporary context. Through critical dialogue and analysis of research students will explore issues relative to identity, land loss, political economics and oral traditions. Interactive exercises, small/large group discussions, guest speakers and media will serve as main tools of instruction. Active student participation and involvement is vital to success of the seminar.

Seminar Expectations and Requirements:
Students will attend each seminar prepared to discuss readings and assignments. In order to receive a passing grade, all assignments must be completed as directed and submitted by the due dates.

Grading:
This course is graded P/NP.

2 Reflection Journals 10% (5% each)
Homework Assignments 10%
Participation and Attendance 40%
Final Project Presentation 20%
Final Essay 20%

100%

Reflection Journals
Students will write two reflection journals to record their thoughts and observations about their learning experiences during the course. Each journal should address the following: What are you learning through this seminar? How do the readings and discussions relate to your personal history, identity and educational experiences? What insights have you gained from the readings assigned during these past weeks (be specific, use examples, cite authors and article)?

1. First journal will address topic(s) covered up to Week 6. Due Date: Oct. 6, 2009
2. Second journal will address topic(s) covered from Week 6 to Week 11. Due Date: Nov. 10, 2009

The Instructor and/or Theme Program Assistant (TPA) will collect journals. If an extension is needed, please talk to the Instructor no later than 24 hours prior to due date. Late assignments, however, will be docked 50% and will only be accepted within 24 hours of the due date. The journals are to be at least a minimum of one page. Journals must include the following:
• Response to the questions posted (3 points)
• Depth of thought and analysis: Did you think about topic? (3 points)
• Met the one page minimum (2 points)
• Effort (2 points)

Homework Assignments
Homework assignments will be assigned at the end of certain seminars to prepare students for upcoming seminars and the final project. The assignments will be graded on completion and effort.
**Class Participation and Attendance**
Attendance at every class (absences must be excused by Instructor in advance)
Contributions to class discussion
Focus and active listening during class activities
Preparation and consistency in bringing required materials to class
Overall engagement in the class

**Final Essay**
The final essay will be a 2-3-page paper covering any or all of the topics taught in the seminar throughout the semester. Similar to the reflection journals, the papers will be graded on the depth of thought and analysis, effort, and relevance.  **Due Date: Friday, December 18, 2009**

**Final Project**
Will require students to choose a topic relevant to the course materials and present it to the class in a method of their choice (i.e., film, skit, powerpoint, workshop, art exhibit). Students can form groups with students interested in similar topics. The instructor will help the students choose a topic and appropriate method of presentation in advance. Projects will be graded on content, creativity, professionalism, and most importantly, effort.
**Final Project Presentation Dates (in-class): Dec. 1 and Dec. 8, 2009**

**Class Schedule**

**September 1 – Week 1**
Topic: Introductions, Course Overview, Active Listening strategies

**September 8 - Week 2**
Topic: Accessing and using campus resources
Guests: Monica Cortes Viharo, Unit 1 Academic Program Coordinator
Professor Duncan Williams, Unit 1 Faculty in Residence
Aaron Cohen, University Health Services Residential Psychologist
Shannan McClain, Unit 1 Health Worker
Dewey St. Germaine, Student Affairs Officer, Ethnic Studies Department

**September 15 – Week 3**
Topic: Study Smart! Preventing procrastination and preparing for exams.
Guests: Residence Hall Peer Advisors

**September 22 - Week 4**
Topic: Library Resources (& visit to Ethnic Studies Library)
Guests: John Berry, Associate Librarian – Native American Studies

**September 29 – Week 5**
Topic: Managing time and space, creating and achieving goals
Guest: Raquel Figueroa, Native American Studies alumna

**October 6- Week 6 * First Journal Due * **
Topic: Native American Identity Discussion
Guest: Lisa Lee, graduate student

**October 13 – Week 7**
Topic: California Indians Historical Identity/ies (& Visit to Hearst Museum of Anthropology)
Guests: Bradley Marshall, Tribal Liaison, Hearst Museum of Anthropology
Alicia McQuillen, alumnna and Native American Studies staff member

**October 20 – Week 8**
Topic: Native Americans’ Political Identity/ies
October 27 – Week 9
  Topic: Native Americans Political Identity II
  Guest:  Professor Joseph Myers, Native American Studies

November 3 – Week 10
  Topics: All Souls Day, Traditions, Work on Final Projects
  Guests:  Ruth Hopper, Kesha Anagal

November 10 – Week 11 * Second Journal Due *
  Topic: Native American Sovereignty and Alcatraz

November 17 – Week 12
  Topic: The Oral Tradition
  Guest:  Richie Richards, Native American Education Specialist, Hearst Museum of Anthropology

November 24 – Week 13
  Topic: The Native American residential community at Cal
  Guests:  Theme Floor alums

December 1 – Week 14
  Final Project Presentations

December 8 – Week 15
  Final Project Presentations

December 18 - * Last day to turn in Final Paper *