



# Native Religious Traditions

## Syllabus

[Schedule](#)[Textbook](#)[Grading](#)[Questions](#)

University of Illinois  
American Indian Studies  
AIS 199 Section C  
RLST 199 Section D  
Spring 2007  
Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:50  
Armory 145  
(505 E. Armory, Champaign)  
  
Prof. James Treat  
[treaty@uiuc.edu](mailto:treaty@uiuc.edu)  
**(217) 265-0328**  
Native American House 2004  
(1204 W. Nevada, Urbana)

### Welcome to the course!

This is an interdisciplinary survey of native religious traditions, exploring the breadth and depth of spiritual expression among native people in North America. Assigned readings and class discussions cover a variety of important themes including sacred landscapes, mythic narratives, oral histories, communal identities, tribal values, elder teachings, visionary experiences, ceremonial practices, prayer traditions, and trickster wisdom. Students also consider historic encounters with missionary colonialism and contemporary strategies for religious self-determination. Class discussions are supplemented by audiovisual materials and guest speakers.

Follow the [links](#) above, at left, or below for more information about the course.

© 2007 by James Treat



# Native Religious Traditions

[Schedule](#)[Textbook](#)[Grading](#)[Questions](#)

## Course Schedule

<b>Introductions</b>	January 16 – January 18
<b>Chapter 1</b>	January 23 – January 25 – January 30
<b>Chapter 2</b>	February 1 – February 6 – February 8
<b>Chapter 3</b>	February 13 – February 15 – February 20
<b>FIRST EXAM</b>	February 22
<b>Chapter 4</b>	February 27 – March 1 – March 6
<b>Chapter 5</b>	March 8 – March 13 – March 15 – March 27
<b>SECOND EXAM</b>	March 29
<b>Chapter 6</b>	April 3 – April 5 – April 10
<b>Chapter 7</b>	April 12 – April 17 – April 19 – April 24
<b>Conclusions</b>	April 26
<b>THIRD EXAM</b>	May 1

© 2007 by James Treat



# Native Religious Traditions

[Schedule](#)[Textbook](#)[Grading](#)[Questions](#)

## Required Textbook

The course textbook can be purchased at the Illini Union Bookstore:

**Sam D. Gill, *Native American Religions: An Introduction*, 2nd ed. (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2005).**

This book is also available from the Media & Reserve Center at the Undergraduate Library.

© 2007 by James Treat



# Native Religious Traditions

[Schedule](#)[Textbook](#)[Grading](#)[Questions](#)

## Grading Criteria

All course work is governed by the Student Code—please make sure you understand your rights and responsibilities as a UIUC student, especially the policy on Academic Integrity (including the Definitions of, and Penalties for, Infractions of Academic Integrity).

Special circumstances are handled in accordance with the policy on Class Attendance and the Policy for Accommodation and Provision of Auxiliary Aids for Students with Disabilities.

Course grades are determined according to the following schedule:

**First Exam (25%) — Thursday, February 22**

**Second Exam (25%) — Thursday, March 29**

**Third Exam (25%) — Tuesday, May 1**

**Class Participation (25%) — 29 class meetings**

Each course assignment is evaluated according to the UIUC [Grading System](#).

© 2007 by James Treat