

History of the Pacific Northwest HSTAA 432

University of Washington
Summer 2004
Guggenheim 317
MTWThF 12:00-2:10

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Course description and goals

HSTAA 432 is an upper-division undergraduate course on local and regional history. Mostly, we are going to focus on the area which became Washington and Oregon (especially west of the Cascades), with some forays into Alaska, Idaho, western Montana, and British Columbia. (And in order to understand these places, we are also going to end up talking about places like New York, Japan, southern China, London, Washington, D.C., the Philippines, Mexico, California, Oklahoma, and Sweden, to name a few.)

Three major themes run through the course. The first is the reciprocal connection between different peoples and the different environments of the Pacific Northwest. The second is the complicated relationships over time among diverse peoples in the region. The third is the changing role over the last three centuries of global capital and different national states in the region. At the same time, we are going to be paying attention to the idea of regionalism itself. How is a region defined? By whom? For what ends? How do regional histories fit into or change national and international histories?

This course is designed to (quickly!) improve your ability to think historically and conceptually. By the end of this class, you should know a lot more about how the events and choices of the past have shaped today's Pacific Northwest. You may see history in the everyday landscape where you didn't notice it before. But you will also be better able to understand and analyze complexity, ambiguity, and contingency in the past (and maybe today, too). To teach historical thinking, HSTAA 432 relies a good deal on primary sources – documents created by people who were eyewitnesses to past events. We will read and interpret letters, diaries, autobiographies, legal documents, newspapers, photos, and a range of other primary sources. We will also read a number of secondary sources – books and articles, mostly by historians in this case, who have themselves used primary sources to come up with an interpretation of the past. You will learn how to assess their arguments, and how to develop your own ideas from primary and secondary sources.

Readings

The following books are required and available at the University Bookstore:

Peter Boag, *Same-Sex Affairs: Constructing and Controlling Homosexuality in the Pacific Northwest* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003)
 Louis Fiset, *Imprisoned Apart: The World War II Correspondence of an Issei Couple* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1997)
 Jay Miller, ed., *Mourning Dove: A Salishan Autobiography* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1990)
 Robert Sullivan, *A Whale Hunt: How a Native American Village Did What No One Thought It Could* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000)

The course reader is also required and can be purchased at Ave Copy (41st and University Way, west side of the Ave.). The books and reader are also available on reserve at Odegaard Library.

The reading load for this course is appropriate for an upper-division course during the intensive summer term (averaging about 300 pages per week). You will get much more out of the class if you keep up with the reading and come to class prepared to discuss it. If you find yourself falling behind and you're not sure how to catch up, please come and talk to me as soon as possible.

This course doesn't use a textbook, but if you would occasionally (or more than occasionally) like to look at a standard history of the region for reference, Carlos Schwantes' *The Pacific Northwest* (the most recent edition) is the best choice. A copy of Schwantes' book will also be available on reserve at Odegaard.

Assignments and grading

All papers are due in class, in hard copy. **Late work will automatically lower your grade on an assignment .2 per day.** I will not accept computer-related excuses. If you absolutely have to have an extension, you need to contact me, preferably by e-mail or in person, ahead of time. You must complete all assignments in order to pass the class.

First paper (due by June 28)	10%
Second paper (due by July 9)	20%
Third paper (due by July 19)	25%
Final exam (in class July 21)	25%
Class participation	20%

The first paper will be a pagelong analysis of primary sources from one night's reading, based on discussion questions distributed in class. The second paper will be a 3-4 pp. critical essay on Peter Boag's book. The third paper will be a reflective essay on themes and sources of your choosing from the class as a whole. I will distribute much more detailed assignments for all three of these shortly.

Finally, I reserve the right to make changes to the class' schedule and assignments as needed.

June 21

Course introduction

What is the Pacific Northwest?

“Raven and Gull Myth;” “Dividing a Beached Whale;” and “First Ship Seen by the Clatsop,” in Franz Boas, *Chinook Texts*, U.S. Bureau of Ethnology Bulletin No. 20 (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1894), 88-91, 259-263, 275-278

“Journal of Fray Juan Crespi” in Donald C. Cutter and George Griffin Butler, eds., *The California Coast: A Bilingual Edition of Documents from the Sutro Collection* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1969), 225-41, 255-59

June 22

The Native Northwest before 1774

Early contacts

John Meares, *Voyages Made in the Years 1788 and 1789, from China to the North West Coast of America* (London: Logographic Press, 1790), 114-23

George Vancouver, *A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and Round the World* (London: G. G. and J. Robinson, 1798), 232-244, 248-57, 284-86

José Mariano Moziño, in Iris H. Wilson Engstrand, ed., *Noticias de Nutka: An Account of Nootka Sound in 1792* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1970), 84-86

June 23

“The coming of the spirit of pestilence”

Imperial claims

Frederick W. Merk, ed., *George Simpson's Journal: Fur Trade and Empire* (Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1968), 36-65, 102-113

June 24

Otters, beavers, and global capitalism

Hall Jackson Kelley, *A General Circular to All Persons of Good Character who Wish to Emigrate to the Oregon Territory* (Boston: R.F. & C. Williams, 1831)

James Swan, *The Northwest Coast*, 33-67, 143-150, 292-305

June 25

Drunks, missionaries, miners, and farmers

<http://www.nwifc.wa.gov/tribes/treaties/tmedcreek.asp> (*Treaty of Medicine Creek*, 1854)
Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs (Washington: GPO, 1857), 315-332

Julia Gilliss, *So Far from Home: An Army Bride on the Western Frontier, 1865-1869*,

Priscilla Knuth, ed. (Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1993), 51-62

Mary Walker's diary, excerpts, August-December 1838, transcript by William S. Lewis (Spokane, 1917), 20-33

June 28

Making new lines on the land
Settler cultures in a mixed world

Last day to turn in first paper

Jay Miller, ed., *Mourning Dove: A Salishan Autobiography* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1990), 3-96
Alexandra Harmon, "Lines in Sand: Shifting Boundaries between Indians and Non-Indians in the Puget Sound Region," *Western Historical Quarterly* 26 (1995), 429-453

June 29

New extractive economies: timber and salmon

Mourning Dove, 99-142

June 30

Railroads, reservations, and riots

Mourning Dove, 145-187

H.H. (Helen Hunt Jackson), "Puget Sound," *Atlantic Monthly* 51 (February 1883), 218-231

Excerpts, "Report of the Governor of Washington Territory to the Secretary of the Interior, 1886" (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1886)

July 1

Railroads, reservations, and riots, cont.

Carlos Schwantes, *Hard Traveling: A Portrait of Work Life in the New Northwest* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994), 10-14, 26-67

Peter Boag, *Same-Sex Affairs: Constructing and Controlling Homosexuality in the Pacific Northwest* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 1-86

"In the matter of the application of Fong Wong for admission to the United States as a returning native born citizen, 1905-1909," in Chinese Exclusion Act Case Files, c.1882-1920, National Archives and Records Administration, Seattle

July 2

Gender and reform in the Progressive-era Northwest

Boag, *Same-Sex Affairs*, 89-222

July 6

Making hinterlands
War, gold, and world's fairs

Dorothy B. Fujita-Rony, "Education in the Metropole," in *American Workers, Colonial Power: Philippine Seattle and the Trans-Pacific West, 1919-1941* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 51-73

Editorials from *The Philippine Review* (Seattle), Vol.1, No. 10 (February 1931)

July 7

World War I and the Pacific Northwest

Radical heritage

Anna Louise Strong, *I Change Worlds: The Remaking of an American* (Garden City, N.Y.:Garden City, 1937), 36-57

Horace Cayton, *Long Old Road* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1970 [1964]), 1-40, 99-118

July 8

From boom to bust

Dana Frank, "Race Relations and the Seattle Labor Movement, 1915-1929," *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 86 (1996), 35-44

Lois Phillips Hudson, "Children of the Harvest," in *Reapers of the Dust: A Prairie Chronicle*, 101-113

July 9

World War II and the transformation of the Northwest

Last day to turn in second paper

Louis Fiset, *Imprisoned Apart: The World War II Correspondence of an Issei Couple* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1997), 1-97

S.L. Sanger, *Working on the Bomb: An Oral History of WWII Hanford* (Portland: Portland State University, 1995), 18-22, 26, 76-84, 89-91, 113-118, 138-141

July 12

The worlds the war made

Imprisoned Apart, 113-268

Richard Kirkendall, "The Boeing Company and the Military-Metropolitan-Industrial Complex, 1945-1953," *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 85 (1994), 135-147

July 13

The atomic Northwest

Cold War and Red Scares in the Evergreen State

Excerpts, Washington State Joint Legislative Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities (Olympia, 1948), *First Report* and *Second Report*

July 14

Postwar prosperity

Robert Sullivan, *A Whale Hunt: How a Native American Village Did What No One Thought It Could* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000), 1-142

July 15

Environmentalism

Whale Hunt, 143-278

July 16

Fishing rights

Backlash

July 19

The new Northwest?

Third paper due

John M. Findlay, "A Fishy Proposition: Regional Identity in the Pacific Northwest," in David Wrobel and Michael Steiner, eds., *Many Wests: Place, Culture, and Regional Identity* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1997)

William Kittredge, "Owning It All," in *Owning It All* (St. Paul: Graywolf Press, 1987), 55-71

July 20

Regionalism redux

July 21

Final exam