Instructor: Dr. Matt Stith  
Email: mstith@uttyler.edu  
Office: BUS 238  
Office Hours: After Class or By Appointment  

Catalog Description:  
A study of the multiple frontiers that emerged in North America prior to the twentieth century with special emphasis on the peoples, empires, and events key to their development.

Course Description:  
There are many different ways to interpret and teach “American Borderlands.” My interpretation centers on the evolving cultural frontier in North America from the period of sustained European contact in the late 1400s to the last “Indian Wars” of the late nineteenth-century. Imagine multiple overlapping circles that each represents a different culture or society. The purpose of this class is to examine the points where those circles converge and how such convergence ultimately impacted the course of American history. As we look at this ever changing interaction, we will explore cultural, social, environmental, military, and political history.

Important Note:  
I encourage you to meet with me regularly to discuss or clarify lecture, discussion, or reading—or to talk about history in general. My job (and satisfaction) is as much to work with students on an individual basis as it is to lecture and facilitate discussion. Please keep this in mind throughout the semester.

Required Reading:  
BOOKS:  
  o ISBN: 978-0806142968

ARTICLES/CHAPTERS: (To be provided by Instructor)  

Article Reviews:  
A one page, single-spaced, 600-word, typed review is required for each article. A good review will include: 1) the author’s argument and purpose, 2) a brief summary of the central theme, and 3) whether or not the author succeeds in proving their argument. Each review is worth 10 points.

Exams:  
There will be two exams, including the final, worth 100 points each. The final is not comprehensive. The exams will consist of two essay questions worth equal amounts. Typically, one essay will cover class lecture and discussion and the other will focus almost entirely on assigned reading.
Book Review Essay:
Students will write a 6+ page argument-driven analysis of Elliott West's *The Essential West*, worth 100 points. Your review essay should carefully examine each chapter by identifying and evaluating the individual arguments. Finally, you should clearly define, analyze, and evaluate West's overall argument and purpose.

Attendance and Participation:
This is an upper-level university course. Attendance and participation are mandatory. *More than four un-excused absences will result in the loss of a letter grade in the class.*

Point Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article Reviews (4x10)</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam I (Mid-Term)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Review Essay</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II (Final)</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>340 pts</td>
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Classroom Conduct:
Come to class prepared with cell phones on silent. Be courteous to your fellow classmates by not talking out of turn or by being otherwise disruptive. Show up to class on time. Chronic late entrances will result in hateful glares from the instructor and fellow students AND will count as absences so far as the attendance grade is concerned. Finally, if you plan to text, sleep, or use a computer for anything but note-taking, do not come to class.

Make-up Policy:
If you miss an exam due to an emergency, talk with me as soon as you return to arrange a make-up. Ten percentage points per day will be deducted from any assignment turned in late.

Academic Honesty:
Cheating of any kind, including plagiarism, will result in immediate failure of the class and possibly further sanctions from the University of Texas at Tyler. Plagiarism, put simply, is using another's work as your own without proper citation or usage. This includes everything from copying and pasting from the Internet to failing to cite an idea from another source that you put in your own words. I strongly recommend reviewing the university policy for cheating and academic dishonesty at the following website: [http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/](http://www.uttyler.edu/judicialaffairs/)

Important Dates:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thur., June 19:</td>
<td>No Class; Start Reading West, <em>Essential West</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri., June 20:</td>
<td>No Class; Review Due: Richter, “Whose Indian History?” [Post on Blackboard by 11:00 am]</td>
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<td>Fri., June 27:</td>
<td>Exam I; Review Due: Taylor, “Divided Ground”</td>
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<td>Thursday, July 3:</td>
<td>Review Due: Hämäläinen, “Politics of Grass”</td>
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<td>Fri., July 4:</td>
<td>No Class; Fourth of July Holiday</td>
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<td>Fri., July 11:</td>
<td>Final Exam; West Essay Due</td>
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Students Rights and Responsibilities
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services office in UC 3150, or call (903) 566-7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.