This course is a historical geography of the arid southwestern quadrant of the North American continent. As such, it includes not only the southwestern portion of the United States, but also much of northern Mexico. The reason for this is quite simple; until relatively recently--AD 1848--there were no political boundaries separating the two nation states. Indeed the notion of nationalism only came about 200 years earlier with the Treaty of Westphalia. Focus is on two subtopics.

1. The ways of life of the "Native Americans," "Spaniards," and "Anglos," three misnomers if ever there were any. Emphasis is placed on subsistence or economic activities of the respective people as they are influenced by the bio-physical environment, technology, demographics, and culture.

2. The effects or changes that successive peoples had on the environment and earlier residents (e.g., how the Spanish mission system affected native cultural ecologies and landscapes) are similarly elucidated.
This course is designed for students in history, anthropology, education, Latin American Studies, American Studies, and Mexican-American Studies, as well as geography and environmental sciences/studies. It is intended to provide an understanding of the processes that create geographically identifiable regions, and foster a deep appreciation for historical ecologies of this exotic yet domestic landscape.

Enrollment Information

This course is offered only in spring semester of the odd numbered years (e.g., 2011)

Course number: GRG 320K Unique number: 36625 Meeting time: MWF 12:00-1:00 p.m. Meeting room: CLA 1.102 Prerequisite: Upper-division standing.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. William E. Doolittle. Office: CLA 3.704 Hours: by appointment via email email: dolitl@austin.utexas.edu TA: Sara Diamond email: sdiamond@utexas.edu

Textbooks

For an insightful comment on landscape and literature in
the American Southwest click here. Gary Nabhan, The Desert Smells Like Rain: A Naturalist in O'odham Country. Tucson:


Schedule, Due Dates

Tentative Schedule Spring 2015

January 21 W 23 F
26 M 28 W 30 F

February 2 M 4 W
6 F 9 M 11 W 13 F 16 M 18 W
20 F 23 M 25 W 27 F 28 S

March 2 M 4 W
6 F 9 M 11 W 13 F 16-20 M-F 23 M 25 W 27 F 28 S 30 M

April 1 W 3 F

6 M

Microcosm and Metaphor Regionalizations Deserts/Basin and Range Plains

Mountains and Plateaus Wetherills of Mesa Verde Pithouses and Pueblos Discussion of Book Reviews Maize, Beans, Squash, and Quelites
Circumscription and Interaction

The "Green Legend" Debunked Water Harvesting Georgia O'Keeffe

The Chaco Legacy Canal Irrigation Spanish Exploration Missions

Field Trip: San Antonio A B Guide Book Native Cartography Horses and Wheels Technology Transfers

Global Economy Colonization and Municipal Grants First Exam SPRING BREAK Towns Presidos Soldados Field Trip: Goliad A B Guide Book Land Grants Water Grants Reality Check: no class meeting Spanish Cartography

8 W Lost Missions Exercise Preparatory Reading 10 F Lost Missions Exercise 13 M Lost Missions Exercise 15 W Open Range Cattle in Texas

17 F Monte and Minford 20 M Sheep in New Mexico 22 W Field Trip Payback: no class meeting 24 F Art Museum Project: no class meeting 27 M Santa Fe Trail 29 W Flooding

May 1 4 M

6 W 8 F 15 F

F Arroyos, Washes, and Gullies Private Use of Public Lands

The New Range Wars Overview Second Exam 9am-noon
Assignment Due Dates

February 23 Review of the Nabhan book
April 1 Review of Cather book
April 27 Art Museum Project
May 8 Review of the Duke and Frantz book

Everything will be prepared and submitted in a PROFESSIONAL manner. Due dates are FIRM. Work will be accepted late only in extreme cases.

http://uts.cc.utexas.edu/~wd/courses/320k/general/schedule.html Created by William E. Doolittle. Last revised 17 December 2014, wed


Additional readings for each class meeting will be available in Canvas via pdf.

Basis of Grading

A short (500-700 word) written review of each of the first three assigned books @ 10% each = 30%
Class participation (including attendance and discussion in class, completion of two exercises, and going on both field trips) = 20%

Two exams @ 25% each = 50%