

English 6399-001

Literature as Performed, Written, & Directed by American Indian Women

Dr. Roemer

Fall 2008 W 6-9 PM

We will examine oral narratives, autobiography, poetry, drama, fiction, and film written, directed, or performed by American Indian women. The female figures range from the mythological to the suburban; from elderly women who are the "last of their tribe" to young children who represent the future; from Southwestern pueblos to Brooklyn backyards. The analytical foci will be on gender and genre, though the literature and our discussions will not be restricted to these emphases.

Papers: 1 research Exams 2 or 3 take-home; 1 in-class final

Texts:

Allen, *Spider Woman's Granddaughters*

Underhill, *Papago Woman*

Silko, *Storyteller*

Sarris & McKay, *Mabel McKay*

Harjo, *She Had Some Horses*

Tapahonso, *Saanii Dahataal; The Women Are Singing*

Hogan, *Solar Storms*

Erdrich, *Tales of Burning Love*

Packet (non-fiction, fiction, poetry; also newspaper ads and articles and critical essays)

Films: *Arrowboy and the Witches* (A Leslie Marmon Silko Film); *Sun, Moon, and Feather* (Spider Woman Theater), *Naturally Native* (Valerie Red-Horse); and *Miss Navajo* (documentary)