

Fall, 2009  
ENG 330.01  
TT 1:30-2:45 p.m.  
English Dept. 677-2490

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Office hours: TT 11:00-11:45 a.m.,  
and by appt.

## NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURES:

### Simon J. Ortiz and Leslie Marmon Silko

What is the relationship between human persons and stories? What is the relationship between oral storytelling and written literature? Why do we read literatures and tell and listen to stories? This semester, we will be looking at our relationships to stories (oral, written, lived) through the lens of contemporary Native American literatures.

In our investigations into Native American literatures, we will explore issues of great relevance to the problems, struggles, and achievements of peoples around the world. We cannot begin to understand Native American literatures without addressing the painful histories of colonization, European and Euro-American empire building, racism, and Manifest Destiny, along with the attendant themes of survivance, endurance, indigenous sovereignty, and the re-indigenization of North America.

The assigned readings address many of the issues crucial to Native peoples today: education, health care, alcoholism, diabetes, economic self-sufficiency, tribal sovereignty, tribal history, representations of American Indians in the media, Indian mascots and athletic team names, and NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act).

#### Texts for the class:

Brill de Ramirez, Susan Berry, and Evelina Zuni Lucero, eds. *Simon J. Ortiz: A Poetic Legacy of Indigenous Continuance*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2009.

Ortiz, Simon J. *After and Before the Lightning*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1994.

---. *from Sand Creek*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2000. Thunder's Mouth Press, 1981.

---. *Woven Stone*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1992.

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Ceremony*. New York: Penguin, 1977, 2006.

---. *Gardens in the Dunes*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000.

---. *Storyteller*. New York: Arcade, 1981.

#### Course Requirements and Grading:

Midterm exam (Sept 29)	30%
Term paper (Dec 8)	40%
Final exam (Dec 14)	30%
Attendance/participation	5%

[This portion of your grade is extra credit. It is an all or nothing opportunity that can be earned through high level and consistent class preparation and participation. Those students who (1) attend all of the class sessions (one absence permitted), (2) demonstrate to the professor during each class period that they are wholly prepared for class, and (3) participate actively in the class learning session with a positive attitude that contributes to the learning community of the whole class will receive 5% extra credit.]

#### Fall Term Schedule of Readings

Aug 27	Introduction to course
Sept 1	<i>Storyteller</i> (1-110, 269-271)
Sept 3	<i>Storyteller</i> (111-177, 271-272)
Sept 8	<i>Storyteller</i> (177-268, 272-274)
Sept 10	<i>Surviving Columbus</i> , part I; <i>Woven Stone</i> (22-30); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (2-25)
Sept 15	<i>Woven Stone</i> (149-232); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (213-219, 323-338)
Sept 17	<i>Woven Stone</i> (233-283); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (367-388)
Sept 22	Review of <i>Storyteller</i> , <i>A Good Journey</i> and <i>Surviving Columbus</i> , part I; <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (147-155, 173-176); receive midterm exam study guide
Sept 24	<i>Surviving Columbus</i> , part II; <i>Woven Stone</i> (30-33); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (125-146)
Sept 29	<i>Ceremony</i> (xi-xxiii, 1-92); Midterm take-home exams due
Oct 1	<i>Ceremony</i> (92-142)
Oct 6	<i>Ceremony</i> (142-244)
Oct 8	<i>from Sand Creek</i> ; <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (226-228, 232-245)
Oct 13	Fall Recess
Oct 15	<i>Woven Stone</i> (30-33, 285-365); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (86-94, 190-192; 213-215, 228-230, 287-313, 361-366)
Oct 20	Review of <i>Ceremony</i> , <i>from Sand Creek</i> , and <i>Fight Back</i>
Oct 22	<i>Woven Stone</i> (3-22, 37-60); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (75-85, 95-105, 177-182, 219-222)
Oct 27	<i>Woven Stone</i> (61-118); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (25-52, 156-167, 222-226)
Oct 29	<i>Woven Stone</i> (119-147); <i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (170-171, 205-212)
Nov 3	<i>Ortiz: Legacy</i> (106-124); Review of <i>Going for the Rain</i> and all of <i>Woven Stone</i>
Nov 5	<i>Gardens in the Dunes</i> , Part 1
Nov 10	<i>Gardens in the Dunes</i> , Parts 2 - 4
Nov 12	<i>Gardens in the Dunes</i> , Parts 5 & 6

Nov 17      *Gardens in the Dunes*, Parts 7 - 9  
Nov 19      *Gardens in the Dunes*, Part 10

Nov 24      Finish *Gardens in the Dunes*; *Ortiz: Legacy* (246-263)  
Nov 26      Thanksgiving Recess

Dec 1      *After and Before the Lightning*  
Dec 3      Review of *Gardens in the Dunes* and *After and Before the Lightning*

Dec 8      semester review, final exam preparation; term papers due

Final Exam Period      Monday, 14 Dec. 2009      2:30-4:30 p.m.      BR 259