



NITSÁHÁKEES

NÁHAT'Á

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SIIH HASIN

NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

E S T A B L I S H E D 1 9 7 9

NAVAJO GOVERNMENT

NAVA-2230-ONL

Credit Hours: 3

SPRING 2022

Cap: 20 students

Faculty: Dr. Delores Becenti

Office: Skyhawk Central-Main Campus

Office Hours: M-F (10 – 3) Appointment

Preferred Communication: E-mail

E-mail: d.becenti@navajotech.edu

Office Phone: (505) 387-7404

Modality: Online (Blackboard)

Class Location Online

Required Materials:

Textbooks: The Navajo Political Experience, 4th Edition, ISBN-978-1-44 22-2144-4 (paperback) Author: David Wilkins

Supplement – Handouts provided by instructor

Tools: Personal computer or laptop, Internet Access to Blackboard

Lab Fee (if applicable): none

Mission, Vision, and Philosophy

Mission: Navajo Technical University honors Dine culture and language, while educating for the future.

Vision: Navajo Technical University provides an excellent educational experience in a supportive, culturally diverse environment, enabling all community members to grow intellectually, culturally, and economically.

Philosophy: Through the teachings of Nitsahakees (thinking), Nahata (planning), iina (implementing), and Siihasin (reflection), students acquire quality education in diverse fields, while preserving cultural values and gaining economic opportunities.

Course Description

This is a study of the history, nature, organization, and operation of the Navajo tribal government. It concentrates on its evolution since its beginning in 1920s, and examines the legal and political basis for, and functions of, the tribal government. The course brings an overview of the major contributions from each tribal administration and the political relationship of the Navajo to the state and federal governments.

COURSE OUTCOMES	COURSE MEASUREMENTS
A strong understanding of the timeline and sequence of Navajo government development.	Identify and discuss the major eras and time lines of Navajo Government development and creation.
A strong understanding of the treaties executed between the Navajo Nation and U.S. Government, and their consequences.	Acknowledge the 16 treaties executed between the Navajo Nation and U.S. Government, and one with the foreign country of Spain.
At the conclusion of the course, the student will have a basic knowledge of the economic growth and early 19 th century renaissance of the Navajo.	Knowledge of the new developing Navajo tribal government, economic growth, and life after the exile by taking a test, discussion in class forum format on legal changes, the role of the new government, and the legal ramifications.
A strong understanding of the Navajo traditional (Naachiid) & national government, the Navajo customary laws, the Navajo natural laws, the Navajo common laws, and the Diné Fundamental laws.	Understand the statutory laws, and the Diné laws, the U.S. constitutional laws and other laws, opinions & treaties which affect the Navajo government and its constituency.
A strong ability to do a verbal presentation and make a schematic diagram on the framework of the Navajo Government, as well as the traditional government.	Discuss and write about the political sovereignty, economic development, religious freedom and early Indian education.

NAVAJO GOVERNMENT - ONLINE

Wk #	Beginning Week Date	Assignments	Blackboard	Blackboard Due Date
1	1/18/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus Preface and Introduction (p. xiii – xxii) Diné Philosophy of Education Identify local chapter meeting and schedule to attend – virtual, telecommunication, or in-person. 	Introduction – Discussion Board Acknowledge NTU policies, Syllabus, and online requirements.	1/23/22
2	1/25/2022	Chapter One <i>Diné National Government: An historical overview</i> Appendices A, B, C, and D	Quiz	1/30/22
3	2/1/2022	Chapter Two <i>A Nation within a Nation</i>	Quiz	2/6/22
4	2/8/2022	Chapter Three <i>Governmental Structure: Its form and function</i>	Quiz	2/13/22
5	2/15/2022	Chapter Four <i>Federal Indian Policy: An historical overview</i>	Discussion Board Quiz	2/20/22
6	2/22/2022	Chapter Five <i>The Framework of Navajo</i>	Quiz	2/21/22

		<i>Government Today</i> Appendix F <i>Navajo Nation Bill of Rights</i> Appendix G <i>Resolution of the Navajo Tribal Council (1989)</i> Appendix K <i>Nelson v. Shirley</i>		
7	3/1/2022	Overview of Weeks 1 - 7	Discussion Board 2-3 Page Reflection Paper	3/6/22
8	3/8/2022	MIDTERM EXAM		3/8/22
9	3/22/2022	Chapters 6 and 7 <i>The Navajo Nation Legislature (The Council)</i> <i>The Navajo Nation Executive (The President and Vice President)</i>	Quiz	3/21/22
10	3/29/2022	Chapters 8 <i>The Navajo Nation Judiciary (The Courts)</i> Appendix H <i>Resolution of Navajo Nation Council (1998)</i> Appendix I <i>Navajo Fundamental Law of 2002</i> Handout – <i>Navajo Courts and Navajo Common Law</i>	Quiz	4/3/22
11	4/5/2022	Chapter 9 <i>Local Governing Institutions</i> Chapter meeting attendance should have been completed.	Discussion Board Quiz 2-page Reflection Paper of Chapter meeting.	4/10/22
12	4/12/2022	Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 <i>Interest Groups and Diné Politics: From Without and Within</i> <i>The Navajo Nation and the Media</i> <i>Diné Voting, Elections, and Campaign Finances</i> <i>Diné Political Economy</i> Appendix J <i>Diné Natural Resources Protection Act of 2005</i>	Quiz	4/17/22
13	4/19/2022	Handout - <i>Navajo Sovereignty</i> pages 19 - 54	Quiz	4/24/22
14	4/26/2022	Handout - <i>Diné Governance</i>	Quiz	5/3/22
15	5/3/2022	Overview of Weeks 9 - 15	Discussion Board 3 – 5 pages reflection paper	5/8/22
16	5/10/2022	FINAL EXAM		5/10/22

Assignments	40%
Attendance Weekly Participation	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Grading Table:

A = 100-90%

B = 89-80%

C = 79-70%

D = 69-60 %

F = 59% or less

Grading Policy

Students must do their own work. Cheating and plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Cheating includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, submission of work that is not one's own, submission or use of falsified data, unauthorized access to exams or assignments, use of unauthorized material during an exam, or supplying or communicating unauthorized information for assignments or exams.

Participation & Attendance

Students are expected to participate in all class discussion; listed above as 20% of the grade with attendance. Points will be given to students who actively participate in class discussion. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Absence from class, regardless of the reason, does not relieve the student of responsibility to complete all course work by required deadlines. Furthermore, it is the student's responsibility to obtain notes, handouts, and any other information covered when absent from class and to arrange to make up any assignments or tests if permitted by the instructor. Incomplete or missing assignments will necessarily affect the student's grades.

The instructor will report excessive and/or unexplained absences to the Counseling Department for investigation and potential intervention. Instructors may drop students from the class after three (3) absences unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor to make up work and the instructor deems an excuse acceptable.

Study Time for Online Courses

For an online course of one credit hour, a student is expected to spend four hours per week studying the course materials.

Academic Integrity

Integrity (honesty) is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. Students who engage in academic dishonesty diminish their education and bring discredit to the University community. Avoid situations likely to compromise academic integrity such as: cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism; modifying academic work to obtain additional credit in the same class unless approved in advance by the instructor, failure to observe rules of academic integrity established by the instructor. The use of another person's ideas or work claimed as your own without acknowledging the original source is known as plagiarism and is prohibited.

Dine Philosophy of Education

The Dine Philosophy of Education (DPE) is incorporated into every class for students to become aware of and to understand the significance of the four Dine philosophical elements, including its affiliation with the four directions, four sacred mountains, the four set of thought processes and so forth: Nitsahakees, Nahat'a, iina and Siih Hasin which are essential and

relevant to self-identity, respect and wisdom to achieve career goals success fully. At NTU's Zuni Campus, the A:shiwi Philosophy of Education offers essential elements for helping students develop Indigenous and Western understandings. Yam de bena: dap haydoshna: akkya hon detsemak a:wannikwa da: hon de:tsemak a:ts 'urnme. *Our language and ceremonies allow our people to maintain strength and knowledge.* A:shiwi core values of hon i:yyulashik'yanna:wa (respect), hon delank'oha:willa:wa (kindness and empathy), hon i:yyayumola:wa (honesty and trustworthiness), and hon kohol lewuna:wediyahnan, wan hon kela i:tsemanna (think critically) are central to attaining strength and knowledge. They help learners develop positive self-identity, respect, kindness, and critical thinking skills to achieve life goals successfully.

Students with Disabilities

Navajo Technical University is committed to serving all students in a non-discriminatory and accommodating manner. Any student who feels that she or he may need special accommodations should contact the Accommodations Office (<http://www.navajotech.edu/student-services#accomodations-services>) in accordance with the university's Disability Accommodations Policy.

Email Address

Students are required to use NTU's email address for all communications with faculty and staff.

Online Course Requirements

1. Students are expected to log-in to the course three or more times per week during the semester. This course moves quickly and it would be easy to fall behind or miss important communication if students do not log-in regularly.
2. Students are expected to have the required textbook within the first week of class. If students do not have the textbook, it will be difficult to complete the assignments, as the questions are right from the textbook. Please use the textbook to answer the questions.
3. The quality of work is expected. Written work is expected to be free of mechanical errors, misspelling, vocabulary usage, paragraphing, etc. Rubric for Writing will be used to grade your Reflection Papers which is posted with the assignment.
4. All assignments must be typed. No handwritten notes, screenshots, or photos will be accepted.
5. Students must use Blackboard to submit their work. Students must not email assignments to the Instructor's email, it will not be considered or accepted.
6. Extra Credit - not available.