

YEE P'AY GYAH MAW TAME AIM
INST 2883: Kiowa Clemente Course in the Humanities
University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
Fall 2019 Syllabus
Thursdays 6:00 – 9:00

Faculty Contacts:

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Elder Instructor:

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Mission

The mission of the USAO Kiowa Clemente Course is to offer a cross-cultural, introductory Liberal Arts course for members of the Kiowa tribe that aims first at preserving Kiowa language and cultural knowledge among members of the tribal community. This course also promotes academic interest, particularly in Native Studies, by introducing students to a higher education environment and encouraging the development of strategies and behavior conducive to academic success.

The course raises the enduring, fundamental questions that characterize the Humanities disciplines. Classes will seek to encourage both student and faculty insight into Kiowa perspectives on various topics, prioritizing Kiowa language, culture, history, traditions, stories, songs, and experience.

As a college course, the class empowers students to think critically, to play a fuller role as active tribal and community members, and to pass on cultural knowledge and tribal perspectives on critical issues to other members of the surrounding communities. Student readings and reflective writings, and class discussions on selected topics will cross several academic fields in the humanities. These fields are: Art & Music; History; Philosophy; Literature; and Law. The Instructors and Kiowa elders will work together to guide students through readings, reflective writing exercises, Kiowa oral tradition and tribal practices, and other resources. Student perspectives and voices will always be honored as an important part of class content and discussion.

Finally, the class supports the kiowatalk.org website. kiowatalk.org is a living archive housed online that includes videos featuring language, stories, and songs to help both students and website visitors learn more about Kiowa culture. Students will help develop content for the website project as part of their participation in class.

Language Aspect

Throughout this course, the study of Kiowa culture and tradition will be interwoven with Kiowa language practice. Language lessons are led by Dorothy Whitehorse DeLaune. Each class will include instruction in and practice with spoken Kiowa using the writing method of Alecia Keahbone Gonzales in her book *Thaum Khoiye Tdoen Gyah: Beginning Kiowa Language*. Language practice includes speaking, singing, and conversational skits.

Cultural Aspect

Each class night also includes cultural discussions. Language practice, reading and/or writing assignments will be given as preparation for the following week.

Additionally, we will be discussing readings dealing with Kiowa culture, law & status practices, history, and philosophy. We will also plan at least one trip to visit cultural sites during the semester.

Student interest and community input is a crucial factor in designing the class. If there is a topic students would like to discuss, we will do our best to make room for it in the class.

Finally, as suggested by the Kiowa Elders who helped design this course when it first began over ten years ago, we begin each class with a prayer and a meal to honor traditional Kiowa practice. Please feel free to contribute a dish or a beverage when you are able.

Enrollment

As part of its ongoing commitment to the Native community around campus, USAO offers free college credit for students who are not already enrolled in regular courses on the USAO campus.

Each semester is worth 3 hours of 2000-level (sophomore-level) Indian Studies credit, up to a total of 6 hours for two semesters. Enrollment forms will be distributed the first night of class only. Community members not interested in enrolling for the course credit may also attend class without being obligated to fulfill course requirements.

Class Design

Each week, class will be organized as follows:

6:00 – 6:45 p.m.: Prayer, meal, and conversation.

6:45 – 8:00 p.m.: Language practice and/or reading discussion, depending on the course calendar.

8:00 – 8:10 p.m.: Break

8:10 – 9:00 p.m.: Language practice and/or reading discussion, depending on the course calendar.

In order to make the most of our time together, we encourage everyone to arrive prior to 6:00 p.m. and be ready to start on time. We encourage those contributing to the meal to arrive at 5:30 to 5:45 so we can have the food ready to go.

Course Video-Recording

The course will be filmed by USAO to preserve in a video archive accessible to the public. Each week's class is filmed and edited by USAO.

Age Requirement

In order to maintain an environment conducive to college-level learning, we must limit the age of those who attend to high school and up, with the minimum grade-level requirement being students currently enrolled in 9th grade.

Required Materials

To be provided by students:

- A notebook within which to keep class notes, reflective writing assignments and course handouts.

To be provided to students for use during class only:

- Gonzales, Alecia. *Thaum Khoiye Tdoen Gyah: Beginning Kiowa Language*.
 - Because of major budget cuts, we ask any students who already have copies of the text to please use them in class. Otherwise, photocopies from the book will be distributed in class. We will not be able to provide copies of the book to students this semester. Copies of the book are available at the USAO Campus Bookstore. The book costs approximately \$30.00. A few book are available for sale at the class site. Please see the Instructor.

To be provided to students:

- Photocopies of other various assigned readings to be handed out throughout the semester.

Grading

The final grade for students who enroll for college credit is based on the following breakdown of points:

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| Attendance | 20% (20 points) |
| Preparation (Reading Assignments) | 20% (20 points) |
| Writing (Reflective Assignments) | 40% (40 points – 10 pts ea. X 4 assignments) |
| Participation (Video Conversations) | 20% (20 points) |
| TOTAL | 100% (100 points) |

Attendance Policy and Classroom Environment

Enrolled students are expected to attend 85% of the class sessions, which means they should miss no more than three classes throughout the course of the semester. Tardies are understandable on occasion, but enrolled students are expected to arrive before class and be prepared to start on time.

We hope to foster a friendly atmosphere in the class so that everyone feels welcome to join in the conversation, ask questions, share insights, and practice the language. Enrolled students are expected to participate in class activities and discussions.

Reflective Writing Assignments

The Reflective Writing Assignments are designed to provide students who enroll in the course for college credit with the opportunity to reflect on course readings and discussion. The assignments must be turned in before or after class on the following days:

Thursday, September 12th

Thursday, October 3rd

Thursday, October 31st

Thursday, November 21st

Reflective Writing Assignments, Cont.-

The basic prompt for the Reflective Writing Assignments is as follows.

In reflecting on the readings and discussions over the last few weeks of class, pick either a meaningful insight or an ongoing question that the readings and/or discussion has raised for you. Write 1 – 2 pages that articulate the insight or question and identify the passage from the readings or the moment from discussion that it led to it. How has it impacted your thinking about Kiowa language, history, and/or culture?

Kiowa Oral Tradition, Language, and Differing Perspectives:

Kiowa language and stories differ across the different locations in the KCA reservation. Each family's versions are valuable to the perseverance of tribal culture and knowledge, and will be welcomed and respected in this class.

Notice

If you are enrolled in this class, and are not enrolled in any other courses on the USAO campus, you should not receive a bill for the Kiowa Clemente Course. If this is your situation and you receive a bill, please notify Rachel Jackson the Office of Academic Affairs at USAO, so the campus can correct the situation.

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK ONE

August 22nd: Discuss syllabus; Introductions; Course Enrollment; Introduction to "Chapter II: Beginning Kiowa Sounds" – *Beginning Kiowa Language*, pages 26 – 34, using kiowatalk.org.

HOMEWORK FOR 8/29:

- 1.) Practice the beginning Kiowa sounds using the website.
- 2.) Read Laura Marshall Clark's, "Reclaiming Space in Native Knowledges and Languages: The Clemente Course in the Humanities," from *First American Art*, Summer 2019, pp. 44 -48.
- 3.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The first assignment is due on September 12th.**

WEEK TWO

August 29th: Discussion of the assigned article (see #2 under homework above); Review of basic sounds; presentation by Dr. Jim Kennedy of the 2019 Kiowa Cultural Tour.

HOMEWORK FOR 9/5:

- 1.) Practice the beginning Kiowa sounds using the kiowatalk.org website.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The first assignment is due on September 12th.**
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WEEK THREE

September 5th: Kiowa language lesson; Introduction of Alice Marriott papers; “Kiowa Mythology and Dreams.”

HOMEWORK FOR 9/12:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The first assignment is due on September 12th.**
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WEEK FOUR

September 12th: REFLECTIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE; Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Warfare and Weapons,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 9/19:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The second assignment is due on October 3rd.**
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WEEK FIVE

September 19th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Political and Social Organizations,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 9/26:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
- 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the**

above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The second assignment is due on October 3rd.

WEEK SIX

September 26th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Power Quest,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 10/3:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The second assignment is due on October 3rd.**
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WEEK SEVEN

October 3rd: REFLECTIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE; Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Power Quest,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 10/10:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The third assignment is due on October 31st.**
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WEEK EIGHT

October 10th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Appearance, Habits, and Daily Life,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 10/24:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The third assignment is due on October 31st.**
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WEEK NINE

October 17th: NO CLASS – FALL BREAK

WEEK TEN

October 24th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Hunting, Camping, Fishing, and Fire Making,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 10/31:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The third assignment is due on October 31st.**
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WEEK ELEVEN

October 31st: REFLECTIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT #3 DUE; Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Domestic Economy,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 11/7:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The fourth and final assignment is due on November 21st.**
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WEEK TWELVE

November 7th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Arts, Musical Instruments, Singing, Whistling, Painting, Designs, Saddle Making,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 11/14:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The fourth and final assignment is due on November 21st.**
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WEEK THIRTEEN

November 14th: Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Games, Recreation, Child Care, Play, and Smoking,” from the Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 11/21:

- 1.) Read handout from Alice Marriott papers.
 - 2.) **Reflective Writing Assignment reminder for enrolled students: what meaningful insights or enduring questions has class discussion and/or the above reading raised for you? Remember to look at the writing prompt in the syllabus for more ideas on what to write. The fourth and final assignment is due on November 21st.**
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WEEK FOURTEEN

November 21st: REFLECTIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT #4 DUE; Kiowa language lesson; “Kiowa Dancing Societies and Peyote Rituals,” from Alice Marriott papers.

HOMEWORK FOR 12/7:

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY:

- 1.) Write a two-page reflection on this semester’s class that addresses the following questions:
 - What have you learned about Kiowa culture over the course of the last 13 weeks?
 - What has been the most valuable part of the course for you this semester?
 - What would you be interested in learning about next semester?
 - How might the course be improved, in your opinion?
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WEEK FIFTEEN

December 7th: EXTRA CREDIT WRITTEN REFLECTIONS DUE; Discuss written reflections; End-of-the-Semester Party; Show and Tell
