

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



Graduate Study in Ethnohistory

Program Information

The Ethnohistory Certificate is open to students enrolled in a graduate degree program at Western Michigan University. The Certificate requires that students take 15 credit hours of Ethnohistory courses, at least one of which is outside of their home department. Students will also take the Ethnohistory seminar that will be taught every year, alternating between the Departments of History and Anthropology. Students must take the course once in each department.

Contacts

Department of History
Western Michigan University
1903 Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5334
1-800-642-0639 / 269-387-4650
FAX 269-387-5334
www.wmich.edu/history
www.wmich.edu/ethnohistory
hist-grad@wmich.edu

Department of Anthropology
Western Michigan University
116 Moore Hall
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-387-3999
anthro@wmich.edu
www.wmich.edu/anthropology

Ethnohistory

Western Michigan University has brought together an engaged group of scholars working in the field of ethnohistory. Particular areas of expertise include culture contact, colonialism, material analysis, historiography, oral history, gender, historical archaeology, ethnography, tribalization, globalization, and modernization. These topics are not restricted to any particular geographic area nor any particular societal structure. The core of ethnohistory lies in the realization shared by practitioners of the benefits obtained through the use of multiple lines of evidence to study history and culture.

Ethnohistorians recognize that documents, archaeological findings, oral histories, and ethnographies can be profitably compared, contrasted, and integrated to elucidate the histories and cultural contexts of groups that have been ignored in conventional historical accounts. Thus, interdisciplinary study is incumbent in ethnohistory. By juxtaposing multiple lines of evidence, the ethnohistorian can at once examine the distant and the local, the general and the particular, bringing human experience into better focus.

Sample Ethnohistory Courses

- Ethnohistory Seminar
- Anthropological Theory
- Anthropology and History
- Archaeology of Gender
- Biography and Material Culture
- Ethnographic Methods
- Historical Archaeology
- Historical Methodologies
- Material Analysis
- Material Culture
- Oral History
- Social Archaeology



Faculty in Ethnohistory

- **Amos Beyan** (*West Virginia, 1985*)
Department of History & Africana Studies Program:
African & African-American History, Colonization, Slave Trade
- **José Antônio Brandão** (*York, 1994*)
Department of History: North American First Nations,
New France, Comparative Colonial, Iroquois
- **Michael Chiarappa** (*Pennsylvania, 1992*)
Department of History: Folklife Studies, Oral History,
Maritime, Great Lakes, Pacific Islands
- **Nora Faires** (*Pittsburgh, 1981*)
Department of History: 19th and 20th-Century America,
Gender, Migration, Race and Ethnicity
- **Bruce Haight** (*Northwestern, 1970*)
Department of History: West Africa, Islam, Artistic
Traditions
- **Jon Holtzman** (*Michigan, 1996*)
Department of Anthropology: Food, Commodities and
Consumption, History and Memory
- **Catherine Julien** (*California, Berkeley, 1978*)
Department of History: The Incas, Colonial Latin America,
Historical Archaeology
- **Mitch Kachun** (*Cornell, 1997*)
Department of History: African-American, Historical
Memory, Public Commemorations
- **Mustafa Mirzeler** (*Wisconsin, 1999*)
Department of Comparative Religion: Africa,
Oral History
- **Michael Nassaney** (*Massachusetts -Amherst,
1992*) Department of Anthropology: Historical
Archaeology, Colonialism, Material Analysis,
Eastern United States
- **Onaiwu W. Ogbomo** (*Dalhousie, 1993*)
Africana Studies Program & Department of
History: Africa, African American,
Ethnohistory
- **James R. Palmitessa** (*New York, 1995*)
Department of History: Late Medieval and
Early Modern Europe, Everyday Life, Society
& Religion, Urban History/Culture, Material
Culture
- **John Saillant** (*Brown, 1989*)
Department of English & Department of
History: Early American Literature, Colonial-
ism, Slavery, African-American diaspora
- **Bilinda Straight** (*Michigan, 1997*)
Department of Anthropology: Oral History,
Ethnography, Material Culture, Africa
- **Allen Zagarell** (*Freie Universität Berlin,
1977*)
Department of Anthropology: Tribal Groups
in South Asia, Tribalism, Pastoralism

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