

***Indigenous American Women* by Devon Abbott Mihesuah**  
**Extra Credit Assignment**

This extra credit assignment asks you to participate in a virtual book group by writing a blog post and participating in online discussion of the book.

First, in *Indigenous American Women*, read:

- Introduction (xi-xxii)
- “A Few Cautions on the Merging of Feminist Studies with Indigenous Women’s Studies” (3-8)
- “Writing about Anna Mae Pictou-Aquash” (9-13)
- “In the Trenches of Academia” (21-38)
- “Colonialism and Disempowerment” (41-61)
- “Culturalism and Racism at the Cherokee Female Seminary” (62-80)
- “1970s Activist Anna Mae Pictou-Aquash” (115-27)
- “Activism and Expression as Empowerment” (143-58)
- “Feminists, Tribalists, or Activists?” (159-71)

This assignment has three steps:

**STEP ONE**

Write a blog post (600 to 800 words) that answers the question *Which two factors pose the greatest challenge to a broader public understanding of Native American women’s history?* Your essay should reference several chapters of Mihesuah’s book.

Due date: April 26 at 2:00 p.m., as a Word document sent to LMB via e-mail. LMB will post these on the course website.

**STEP TWO**

Between April 27 and May 2, read and comment substantively on at least two of your classmates’ posts. (Be sure to use at least your first name and last initial in your comments so that you receive credit for them.) Respond to comments, if any, left in response to your essay.

**STEP THREE**

Between May 2 and 7, write a final comment on your own post that sums up what you have learned from others’ blog posts and the discussion. State whether, and how, you would revise the argument you make in your original post.

Your blog post and comments collectively will be assessed a 0,  $\checkmark$ -, or  $\checkmark$ +.

- Posts and comments that do not meet the requirements of the assignment (i.e., the blog post should make an argument, cite Mihesuah several times, exhibit reasonable grammar, and meet the minimum length, while comments should be well-written and on topic) will receive a **0**. A score of 0 will not affect your final grade in the course.
- Posts and comments that meet the minimum requirements will receive a  $\checkmark$ -. This score will earn you an increase of 2.5% in your final grade.
- Posts and comments that make interesting, thoughtful arguments and thoroughly support them with relevant evidence from Mihesuah will receive a  $\checkmark$ +. This score will earn you an increase of 5% in your final grade.