

Anthropology 1120

Questions for Readings

Week 1: Muckle Prefaces and Part I

1. What are the benefits and drawbacks of calling native people 'First Nations'?
2. What criteria do anthropologists use to identify and classify native groups in BC?
3. How do individual native groups organize themselves? Whose system is this?

Week 2: Muckle Part II; Carlson 'The First British Columbians' (pp. 12-34)

1. How do native peoples and archaeologists differ in their beliefs about the origins of people in British Columbia?
2. What are the major emphases of archaeological research in BC over the past one hundred years? To what uses is archaeological research put today?
3. Why are archaeological sites older than 10,000 years hard to find?
4. How does Carlson suggest archaeologists define culture?
5. What research questions are of interest to archaeologists?
6. What are the major features of the three archaeological periods of cultural development and change?

Week 3: Muckle Part 3; Boas, Barnett, and Codere

1. How have anthropologists tried to learn about native cultures and document them?
2. Why is there an emphasis on coastal cultures in Muckle's chapter?
3. Boas, Barnett, and Codere all try to explain what the potlatch is about. What is the crux of each explanation?
4. According to Codere why has the potlatch has changed and grown?

Week 4: Ridington

1. What does Ridington mean by adaptive strategy?
2. What is the connection between adaptive strategy and worldview?
3. Why does Ridington suggest that technology (often characterized in material terms) is essentially a system of knowledge (a mentalist perspective)?
4. How are dreams and hunting connected?
5. Characterize Beaver worldview. What role does the trail have in this worldview?
6. What does Ridington's comparative study at the end of the article tell you about hunting societies and the relationships between technology and world view?

Week 5: Muckle, Part 4, pp 64-78; Appendices 3 & 4 and Carlson, 'A Legacy of Broken Promises' (pp. 53-70)

1. In your mind, is the term 'modernization' the best way to describe the events of this chapter?
2. What sense do you get of native agency and resistance to the changes resulting from colonialism?
3. What is the attitude of settlers to native peoples?
4. What is James Douglas' role in colonization of native peoples?
5. Contrast Canadian concepts of land ownership with those of the Sto:lo.
6. Is Carlson's account of colonial history different in any way from the accounts in Muckle or McIlwraith's lectures?

Week 6: Hanna and Henry, *Our Tellings*, Introduction and Stories

1. As native people telling the story of their own community, how does Hanna and Henry's introduction differ from accounts of native people we have already encountered in the class?
2. Why is there such an interest in collecting Nlaka'pamux stories? (Think in terms of anthropology and in terms of the Nlaka'pamux people.)
3. When are stories told?
4. How did Hanna and Henry collect these stories? What problems did they encounter?
5. What is the 'Coyote and Wood Tick' story about? With your knowledge of interior cultures, what culture themes appear to be present?
6. Is the story of 'The Coming of the White Man' consistent with your understanding of the contact between native and non-native cultures in BC?

Week 8-9: Brody (see other sheet)

Week 10-12: Carlson, *A Legacy of Broken Promises* (71-end); *A Layperson's Guide to Delgamuukw*; Fact Sheet: *Aboriginal Rights in BC*; *and*, Muckle pages 78-96 and Appendix 5&6

1. What is the emerging settler mentality associated with Joseph Trutch?
2. What is the contemporary legacy of colonial land policies?
3. What outstanding issues in aboriginal rights does Muckle identify?
4. What is the impact of the 1997 Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Delgamuukw case?
5. What is aboriginal title?
6. What evidence of native resistance to colonization does Harris cite?
7. What are the three scales (types) of economies are natives involved in?
8. What are the two 'stories' of British Columbia? What two options for dealing with the native land question come out of these stories?
9. What are the pros and cons of Harris's 'politics of difference'?

Week 12-13: Harris: "Revisiting the Native Land Question"

1. What evidence of native resistance to colonization does Harris cite?
2. What are the three scales (types) of economies are natives involved in?
3. What are the two 'stories' of British Columbia? What two options for dealing with the native land question come out of these stories?
4. What are the pros and cons of Harris's 'politics of difference'?