

# Humanities Seminars Program

## Tribal Governments: Where They Fit

### Instructors:

Dr. Melissa Tatum, Research Professor of Law & Director, Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy Program, The University of Arizona ([mtatum@email.arizona.edu](mailto:mtatum@email.arizona.edu))  
Dr. Jide James-Eluyode, Staff Attorney and Postgraduate Fellow, Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy Program, The University of Arizona ([jidejames2@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jidejames2@email.arizona.edu))  
Stephanie Carroll Rainie, Manager, Tribal Health Program, Native Nations Institute, The University of Arizona ([scrainie@email.arizona.edu](mailto:scrainie@email.arizona.edu))

### Dates and Time:

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – noon  
July 10 – July 31, 2014

The role of tribal governments within the United States is not well understood, largely because most schools do not teach it. This course is designed to fill that gap. Each class will explore a different aspect of how tribal governments fit within the federal system. The first session looks at how historic and modern structures of tribal governments relate to the U.S. government. The next class focuses on issues of cultural property and sacred sites. The third meeting dispels the myth that tribal economic development consists primarily of casinos and examines the research and work of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development and the University of Arizona's Native Nations Institute. The final class pulls together other issues (such as the environment and resource extraction) and examine how tribal governments are approaching them.

**Suggested readings** (uploaded on the password protected link "course materials" on the HSP website (<http://course.hsp.arizona.edu>):

#### For July 10:

Tribal Courts: The Battle to Earn Respect without Sacrificing Culture and Tradition

#### For July 17:

Chapter 7 (Cave Rock) and Chapter 8 (Arizona Snow Bowl) from *Law, Culture, and Environment*

#### For July 24:

Foreword, Chapter 1, and Afterword, *Rebuilding Native Nations: Strategies for Governance and Development*

and

"Social and Economic Change on American Indian Reservations: A Databook of the US Censuses and the American Community Survey 1990-2010"

#### July 31:

We are not planning on assigning any structured homework for the last day of class. Rather, we plan to see what issues and topics are of most interest to the class during the first three weeks and build the last day of class around those topics. Some of the options are indicated in our course design (gaming, natural resources, environmental issues, etc.)