

Custer's last stand

Start date	16/06/2019	End date	16/06/2019
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Dr Mark Felton	Course code	1819NDX038

Director of Academic Centres Sarah Ormrod

For further information on this course, please contact Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus
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To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr. Mark Felton is the author of over 20 military history books that have received international attention, two of which, *Zero Night* and *Castle of the Eagles*, are currently being adapted as Hollywood movies. He holds a PhD in American History, focusing on Sitting Bull and the Sioux. He also appears regularly in television documentaries, including for The History Channel, National Geographic and Netflix. His book *Today is a Good Day to Fight: The Indian Wars and the Conquest of the West* was used by Melvin Bragg as the basis for a 2011 BBC Radio 4 documentary on Custer's Last Stand. Mark also runs the popular YouTube channel 'Mark Felton Productions'.

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	Session 1: Sioux-US Relations & the Seeds of Conflict
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Session 2: 1868 – Red Cloud's Pyrrhic Victory
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Session 3: The War for the Black Hills, 1876
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	Session 4: The Death of Custer
16:45	Day-school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To stimulate students' interest in the relationship between the Sioux and the United States
- To enable students to understand and quantify the events that led to Custer's Last Stand

Content:

We begin in lecture one by understanding who the Sioux were, and how they came into conflict with the United States in Red Cloud's War. In lecture two we examine the conclusion of Red Cloud's War in 1868, and how the Sioux thought they had bought peace for all time. In lecture three, how the US engineered a new war with the Sioux over the Black Hills in 1875-76. This includes the initial Custer military expedition. In lecture four, we examine the full shocking story of Custer's Last Stand on the Little Bighorn River in June 1876, and its aftermath.

Presentation of the course:

Lectures and class discussion, Q&As.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Examine the Indian wars of the 1860s and 1870s and identify the major historical marker points in the history of United States-Sioux interaction
- Outline the events that led up to Custer's Last Stand
- Identify the reasons for Custer's military failure at the Little Bighorn

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Mark Felton	<i>Today is a Good Day to Fight</i>	The History Press, 2009
Dee Brown	<i>Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee</i>	Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1970

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:
<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 11 June 2019