

## Contemporary Issue Report -

### Overview

The goal of these reports is to build an awareness of the current experiences of indigenous peoples of the Americas. Students are expected to search contemporary publications (newspapers, periodicals, scholarly journals) and identify one contemporary issue concerning Native Americas. Students will write a 2 page report about this issue and be prepared to share their issue with their team reading group. The reports will be shared among team reading groups via blackboard. These reports will help students throughout the semester as we discuss how historical studies inform our understanding of contemporary issues.

### Response Paper Objectives

1. Identify the issue. How does it relate to indigenous peoples of the Americas?
2. Discuss the significance of the issue to current events. Why does it matter to the particular country, city, and/or region? What larger connections exist within or outside of the Americas?
3. What types of historical studies or historical questions does the event raise? How might a historian seek out answers to the issue or event in question? If applicable what historical studies that we have read provide insights into this issue?

### Format

- 500-600 words
- Typed, double-spaced
- 12 pt, Times New Roman (or other standard font)
- This formatting should make these 2-page double-spaced responses

### Style

- I do not want to impose a specific style, nevertheless:
- This should be written as an academic paper.
- This should be written as a coherent essay do not simply respond to each objective independently. Try to construct an argument or thesis which summarizes your ideas and addresses the objectives.
- Avoid sounding casual, avoid idioms, avoid contractions.
- Imagine this is being read by an academic audience familiar with the general material.
  - Meaning do not summarize too much or spend too much time outlining the relevant historical events or themes. Focus on the ideas brought up by the author not the history itself.
- “I” statements are okay, but do not over use them. “I felt” “I like” “I believe”