

UO seminar examines Curtis photos of Indians in western North America

The University of Oregon Libraries Special Collections and University Archives will offer an inside look at the photographic work of Edward Curtis in a half-day UO Insight Seminar entitled *Native American Photographs: The Art of Edward Curtis*.

The seminar is scheduled for May 3 from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Knight Library Browsing Room, 1501 Kincaid St. The registration fee for the noncredit, ungraded public seminar is \$45.

The seminar will be taught by James Fox, head of Special Collections and University Archives, and Jennifer O'Neal, university historian and archivist. Learn

more and register online at <https://library.uoregon.edu/administration/insight.html>.

The rare, original photographs covered in the seminar are a treasure from the UO Libraries Special Collections. From the mid-1890s to the late 1920s, Curtis roamed throughout western North America documenting what he perceived to be the “vanishing” lifeways of Indians.

More than 2,000 of Curtis' images appear in his monumental *The North American Indians (1907-1930)*, which comprises 20 volumes of large photographs and 20 corresponding volumes of photographs and text.

The seminar will examine Curtis' own copy of this stunning work, discuss its aesthetic value and evaluate it from a Native perspective.

No textbook is needed for the seminar. The full volumes and images, however, can be accessed through the American Memory project at memory.loc.gov/ammem/award98/ienhtml/curthome.html.

In addition, the new book *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis* by Timothy Egan (timothy-eganbooks.com/books-2/short-nights-of-the-shadow-catcher/) will be referenced in the seminar.

UO Insight Seminars provide an opportunity for the general public to re-engage with the liberal arts and experience the intellectual fulfillment that is the hallmark of a university education. The seminars focus on the humanities, particularly on “meaning of life” topics of keen interest to adults.

They are aimed at people eager to return to real college-level reading and study. Led by UO faculty members who are experts on the topics, the seminars require careful reading of both primary and secondary materials.

Full details and information can be found at library.uoregon.edu/node/4150.

First Nations receives AARP grant to address hunger, food security of Elders

LONGMONT, Colo. – First Nations Development Institute (First Nations) announced earlier this year that it has received a \$250,000 grant from AARP Foundation to fund a project to address hunger, nutrition and food insecurity among Native American Tribal Elders.

The new grant expands work that began in 2012 when AARP Foundation provided First Nations with a \$187,660 grant under First Nations' Native American Food Security project.

Under the first grant, First Nations awarded funding to four projects that have been successfully completed and

evaluated. They were to the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma, the Pueblo of Nambe and Santo Domingo Pueblo in New Mexico and Sipaulovi Development Corporation (Hopi) in Arizona.

Under the new grant, First Nations will award funding to additional American Indian projects. A proposal process is now under way for those grants.

The Native American Food Security project assists American Indian Tribes or organizations working to eliminate food insecurity among senior populations.

National statistics show that American Indians continue to experience

high rates of poverty, contributing to food insecurity in many Native communities.

According to the most recent American Community Survey, about 26 percent of American Indians live at or below the poverty line. The same survey indicates that roughly 12 percent of all American Indians living in poverty are age 55 and older.

Other studies conducted by the National Resource Center on Native American Aging note that Native seniors suffer from higher rates of obesity, diabetes and other negative health indicators when compared to other senior groups in the U.S.

“Our grant from AARP Foundation bore significantly positive results during the first round and we are excited and very thankful that the foundation has provided additional funding for this effort,” said First Nations President Michael E. Roberts. “With a combination of direct grants and technical assistance and training made possible by the new funding, we will grow this project to increase the quantity and healthful quality of food for Tribal Elders while documenting the best models for broader dissemination throughout Indian Country.”

“AARP Foundation's \$250,000 grant to First Nations helps bolster the continued efforts of both of our organizations in the fight against older adult hunger,” said AARP Foundation President Lisa Marsh Ryerson. “By aligning with an organiza-

tion that has a proven record in hunger relief, we are pleased to be able to do it again and we are looking forward to watching the new programs grow further and fight hunger for Native American Elders.”

AARP Foundation is working to win back opportunity for struggling Americans 50+ by being a force for change on the most serious issues they face today – housing, hunger, income and isolation.

By coordinating responses to these issues on all four fronts at once and supporting them with legal advocacy, the foundation serves the needs of those 50+ while working with local organizations nationwide to reach more people, work more efficiently and make resources go further.

AARP Foundation is a charitable affiliate of AARP. Learn more at aarp-foundation.org.

For 34 years, using a three-pronged strategy of educating grassroots practitioners, advocating for systemic change and capitalizing Indian communities, First Nations has been working to restore American Indian control and culturally compatible stewardship of the assets they own – be they land, human potential, cultural heritage or natural resources – and to establish new assets for ensuring the long-term vitality of American Indian communities throughout the United States.

For more information about First Nations, visit firstnations.org.

Become an American Indian credit counselor or financial coach

You are invited to join Rural Dynamics' (RDI) ever-growing group of financial coaches and credit counselors across the nation who provide culturally competent financial counseling and education to clients who have set lifelong goals such as buying a home, starting a small business, building their credit or just repaying their debt.

RDI's Native American Credit Counseling Program is focused on identifying attainable dreams/goals; evaluating one's financial situation; creating a workable, realistic budget; setting next steps; and providing mentoring throughout the process.

A key component to financial independence and self-sufficiency is having the tools and resources to get there. Sitting down for a one-on-one financial counseling session helps clients organize and determine what is going to work best for their family's situation.

The course consists of 10 weekly web-based conferences, which are followed by a week of in-person intensive review (not mandatory) and the final exam (in Great Falls, Mont.).

The next session is scheduled to begin May 8. The cost of the complete course is \$1,899 and includes course registration, study materials, webinars, examination and technical assistance.

Successful participants become accredited credit counselors with the AFCPE (Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education).

A discounted option also is available for those who want to provide more of a financial coaching piece, not necessarily the full-fledged certified credit counselor piece. This option is just \$250 plus books.

For more details or to enroll, visit naccprogram.weebly.com.

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