

HIS 396
Indigenous Peoples of Long Island & New England

Satisfies: SBS+ [DEC: K & 4]

M/W, 2:40-4:00pm

Professor Paul Kelton

This course offers an in-depth study of the history of the first peoples to inhabit greater Long Island area (Long Island and southern Connecticut, Rhode Island, and southern Massachusetts) from prehistory to present. Commonly and collectively referred to as American Indians, indigenous peoples include a diverse array of Algonquian-speaking communities whose stories tell of their existence in the region from time immemorial. Arrival of Europeans—the English and Dutch—as well as the policies of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island shattered many Native communities, caused the dispersal of a great number beyond the region, and led to the inclusion of newcomers into the communities that remained. Today there are several federally and state recognized American Indian tribes living where their ancestors did and several others seeking recognition. The struggle of Indigenous Peoples for survival in a shattered world and their continuing quest for political and cultural sovereignty will be the major theme of the class.