

ENGL156  
Literature of Native America  
TR 4-5:15  
Cari Carpenter

*I am the one whose death was intended  
and didn't die*  
-Connie Fife, "Dear Webster"

In this course we will read Native American literature from origin stories, which continue to be told today, to contemporary poetry and prose. We will also examine art work, music, and film in order to approach this literature with the dynamic spirit it deserves. In considering the various stories that Native Americans tell, we will address a number of questions: how is the unique legal relationship between American Indians and the United States government represented in Native literature? How do these authors contest and revise stereotypes of Indians? How should Native American literature be taught and read, given its diversity and its roots in the oral tradition? How do these texts challenge what we think of as storytelling, "America," and even ourselves? Students will be expected to keep up with current events via newspapers and the Internet and to become more acquainted with issues affecting Indigenous people.

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