ENG 3706-001: Regional American Literature: The American West

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Regional American Literature: The American West

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Office: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-5 and by appointment

Texts:
Sherman Alexie, *Reservation Blues*
Rudolfo Anaya, *Bless Me, Ultima*
Willa Cather, *Death Comes for the Archbishop*
Lewis Garrard, *Wah-To-Yah*
Richard Grant, *American Nomads*
Barbara Kingsolver, *The Bean Tree*
Susan Magoffin, *Down the Santa Fe Trail into Old Mexico*
N. Scott Momaday, *The Way to Rainy Mountain*
John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*
And several films to be determined

Rules and regulations:
1. Attendance counts. An A student is in class most all the time, ready to go.
2. Participation counts. What we do in English classes is talk about books. In other courses, they do other things; here—we talk about books, share ideas, listen to each other, and respond. An A student is in the game.
3. Reading deadlines count. Finishing the book is just as important as starting the book. Reading for fun is one thing; reading for school is another, and we have to keep up the pace. An A student starts the reading early, gives it a lot of time in each reading session, and gets it done.
4. The final grade will be based on how well each of you hits the first three points here and a major take home final project.

Assignment for this Thursday:
Look over the books and write a short paper, two pages or so, describing what you see. Pay attention to dates, author’s identity, kind of book; read a few pages, the table of contents, the back of the book, and write up your impressions.

Reading assignment #1:
Get started right away on Richard Grant’s *American Nomads*, aiming to have it finished next week, Thursday.