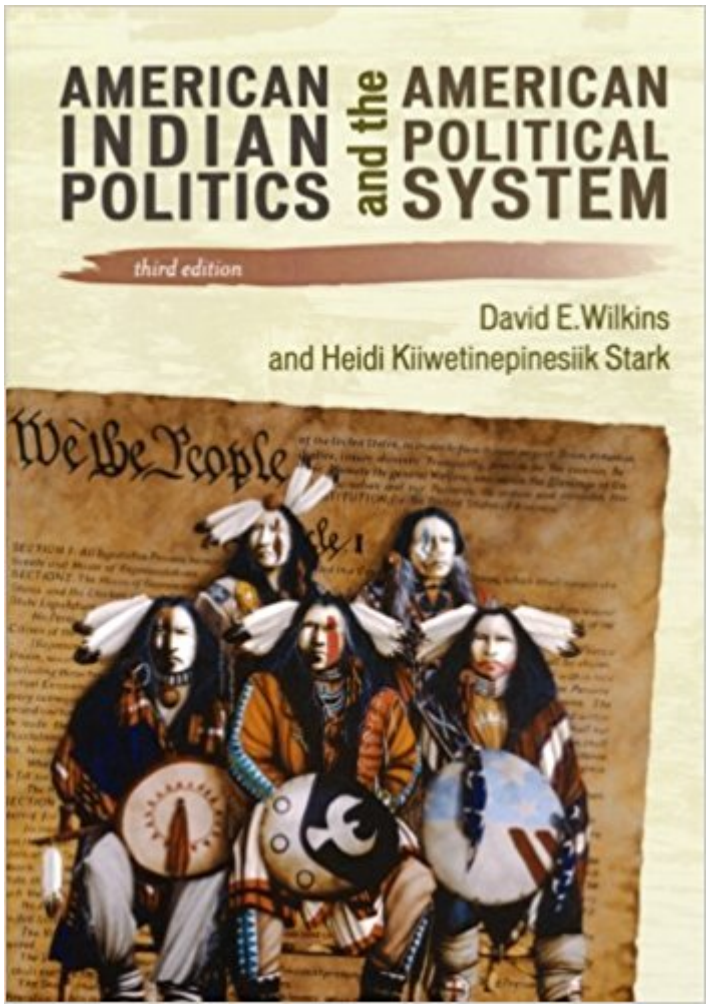
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American Indian Politics And The American Political System (Spectrum Series: Race And Ethnicity In National And Global Politics)



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Synopsis

Now in its third edition, American Indian Politics is the most comprehensive study written from a political science perspective that analyzes the structures and functions of indigenous governments (including Alaskan Native communities and Hawaiian Natives) and the distinctive legal and political rights these nations exercise internally, while also examining the fascinating intergovernmental relationship that exists between native nations, the states, and the federal government. The third edition contains a number of important modifications. First, it is now co-authored by Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiik Stark, who brings a spirited new voice to the study. Second, it contains ample discussion of how President ObamaOs election has altered the dynamics of Indian Country politics and law. Third, it contains more discussion of women's issues, several new vignettes, an updated timeline, new photographs, and updated charts, tables, and figures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a lively and accessible account of the remarkably complex legal and political situation of American Indian tribes and tribal citizens (who are also U.S. citizens). Wilkins and Kiiwetinepinesiik Stark have provided the Ã¢â ¬Å“go toÃ¢â ¬Â• source for a clear, yet detailed and sophisticated, introduction to tribal sovereignty and federal Indian policy. It is a valuable resource both for readers unfamiliar with the subject matter, and for readers in Native American Studies and related fields, who will appreciate the insightful and original scholarly analysis of the authors.

(Thomas Biolsi)American Indian Politics is simply an indispensable compendium of fact and reason on the historical and modern landscape of American Indian law and policy. No teacher or student of American Indian studies, no policymaker in American Indian policy, and no observer of American Indian history and law should do without this book. There is nothing in the field remotely as comprehensive, usable, and balanced as Wilkins and Stark's work. (Matthew L.M. Fletcher)Praise for previous editions? Wilkins has written the first general study of contemporary Indians in the U.S. from the disciplinary standpoint of political science. His inclusion of legal matters results in sophisticated treatment of many contemporary issues involving Native American governments and the government of the U.S., and gives readers a good background for understanding other questions. The writing is clear?not a minor matter in such a complex subject?and short case histories are presented, plus links (including websites) to many sources of information. Intended for undergraduates, but also valuable for graduate students, researchers, and the serious general public... (Choice)Praise for previous editionsÃ¢â ¬â • Wilkins has written the first general study of contemporary Indians in the U.S. from the disciplinary standpoint of political science. His inclusion of legal matters results in sophisticated treatment of many contemporary issues involving Native American governments and the government of the U.S., and gives readers a good background for understanding other questions. The writing is clearÃ¢â ¬â •not a minor matter in such a complex subjectÃ¢â ¬â •and short case histories are presented, plus links (including websites) to many sources of information. Intended for undergraduates, but also valuable for graduate students, researchers, and the serious general public. (Choice)The first two editions of American Indian Politics and the American Political System were perhaps the best works available on the topic. They offered comprehensive coverage of topics ranging from the history of federal policy and tribal political economy to the various political actors and use of the media, were written in a manner that made sense of a difficult topic, and were extremely accessible. The third edition promises even better coverage and perspective with the addition of coauthor Kiiwetinepinesiik StarkÃ¢â ¬Â¦.[T]here are relatively few changes from the first two editions, but they are important. The most notable change is merely the updating of information. American Indian politics/policy operates in a rapidly evolving and changing environment, making an update necessary. The book also differs in that the coauthor is able to introduce a different perspective, primarily in issues pertaining to Native women. Overall, the structure and topics covered remain essentially the same, which is good. Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers, undergraduate students, and graduate students. (Choice)

David E. Wilkins is McKnight Presidential Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota. Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiik Stark is assistant professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota at Duluth.

Very good book on the Politics dealing with Native American Country, but also with the legal system and case review of landmark Native American Country cases. Also, in depth information on legislatures affecting tribes.This was a required course book for Native American Politics at my college I attend.

Helped me learn a lot about Native Americans and how the political system really makes it hard for them to gain rights and assert their natural privileges such as freedom of religion. Highly recommend

One of the few studies of Native American politics out there today. I teach courses in racial and ethnic politics, and this book is incredibly helpful, not only for the arguments that Wilkins makes, but perhaps even more so because of its comprehensive scope--both historically, and with respect to political behavior *and* institutions.

As a descendant of the Lumbee Indians of North Carolina, David Wilkins is the perfect person to write this very informative book. If you are interested in the history of the native American peoples, I recommend that this book is in your reading list.

this was a required textbook which i found very interesting. i bought it for school. nothing more to say about it

Came with the pages mostly not bent, but the cover was pretty bent so that was disappointing, but overall good.

This is an essential text on role of Indians in US political system, designed to be used by undergraduates. The chapters cover just about every issue, including history, demographics, activism, tribal political systems, federal and state policies toward Indians, and the images of Native Americans in national media. The emphasis is on Native Americans within the US political system as a whole, and not on politics within tribes or on reservations.Though the factual material is

presented in a balanced way, Wilkins has a clear political position that is evident in every chapter of the text. Among other consequences, this means that he does not take a critical stance toward the tribal governments, political movements, or individual Native Americans that he discusses. In the classroom, this would provide a good foundation for discussion, while the non-classroom reader will simply have to read the book critically.While the bias is a "feature," not a "flaw," the book also has some minor flaws. For examples, uncertain organization mars the chapter on "actors in Indian politics." Rather than focusing narrowly on these actors, Wilkins intersperses his treatment of actors and the history of particular policies. Some of this confusion is inevitable, since the role of the BIA as an actor obviously reflects the legislative history of the agency, but Wilkins does not try to keep these issues analytically distinct.Oddly for a book on politics, Wilkins doesn't discuss tribal political systems all that much. For much better treatment of this issue, albeit one limited to the Montana reservations, see Lopach et al., Tribal Government Today.Despite these weaknesses, this really is the best overall book on American Indian politics that I have been able to find. It would be useful both for the general reader interested in the topic and for undergraduate classroom use.

One of the only books that focuses on American Indian Politics in a scientific manner. This book considers native institutions and how they fit in with the greater concept of American federalism. An excellent read.

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