



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

School of Sociology

Spring 2019 Colloquium
Oceti Sakowin: Decolonizing the
Social Movement at Standing
Rock

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12:00 – 1:30 pm

Social Sciences 415

Oceti Sakowin represents traditional Dakota/Lakota Council leadership, disintegrated by colonizing wars, into border lands whittled down to reservations, and conflicts at Standing Rock.

“The recent NoDAPL resistance movement at Standing Rock is a near perfect case study to advance analysis of how social justice movement claims are grounded historically in lands of Native Nations – Oceti Sakowin main camp was named for pre-European Lakota / Dakota societies with powerful reference to Treaties and government policies.”

Indigenous societies challenge social movement analysis, with resistance in historical settler colonialism. Decolonization identifies traditional systems and suppressing mediating institutions (BIA), with oldest social formations – Oceti Sakowin – tracing its devolution over 200 years and re-deployment in NoDAPL camps contesting “unceded lands” and “mni wiconi” sacred rights.

Over 200 Native Nations and thousands of Allies – protestors, “water protectors” resistance leaders – were in direct-action non-violent conflict with oil pipelines, state/federal police, and global corporate security forces, from Oceti Sakowin camps at Standing Rock.