College of HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

A Hole in the Dream: The Ghost Dance and the Making of Modern America

Dr. Louis Warren

University of California, Davis

Thursday, April 26, 2012

7:00 p.m. (appetizers served at 6:30 p.m.)

Carol Burke Student Lounge

Sponsored by the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society

For many people, the Ghost Dance and its tragic climax at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, in 1890 have come to symbolize the close of the frontier, the end of the Indian Wars, and the end of the nineteenth century. Yet, as environmental and western historian Louis Warren will explain in this fascinating talk, the Ghost Dance was not the death knell of an outmoded way of life. Rather, it expressed a desire for environmental renewal which was widely shared among Indians and non-Indians, and among its results was the beginning of a modern, twentieth century sensibility that we now call cultural relativism.

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