

DÉPARTEMENT D'ÉTUDES ANGLAISES
&
THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

PRESENT A LECTURE BY

MICHAEL MOON

**Sovereignty and Sexuality:
Angie Debo and Native American/First Nations Studies Today**

Sovereignty has long been a central concept among the indigenous peoples of North America. Since the pioneering work of such scholars and activists as Paula Gunn Allen, Craig Womack and others, sexuality has become an important focus of political and theoretical writing and performance within and beyond Native communities. This presentation is an attempt to explore the possibility of thinking sexuality and sovereignty together. Inspired by the recent appearance of a widely varied body of writing and performance on Native sexualities, this paper looks at a set of questions about sovereignty and sexuality in relation to a set of life-stories from mid-twentieth-century Oklahoma, including those of the author and of Angie Debo, celebrated historian of the Native peoples of Indian Territory.

Michael Moon is Professor and Co-Director of Graduate Studies, at the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts, Emory University. Professor Moon works on late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century American literature and culture, including film, especially in relation to the history and theory of sexuality and of mass culture. Michael Moon is the author of *A Small Boy and Others: Imitation and Initiation in American Culture from Henry James to Andy Warhol* (1998) and *Disseminating Whitman: Revision and Corporeality in Leaves of Grass* (1991). He is also the editor of the *Norton Critical Edition of Leaves of Grass* and several essay-collections in the fields of Queer Theory and American Studies.

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