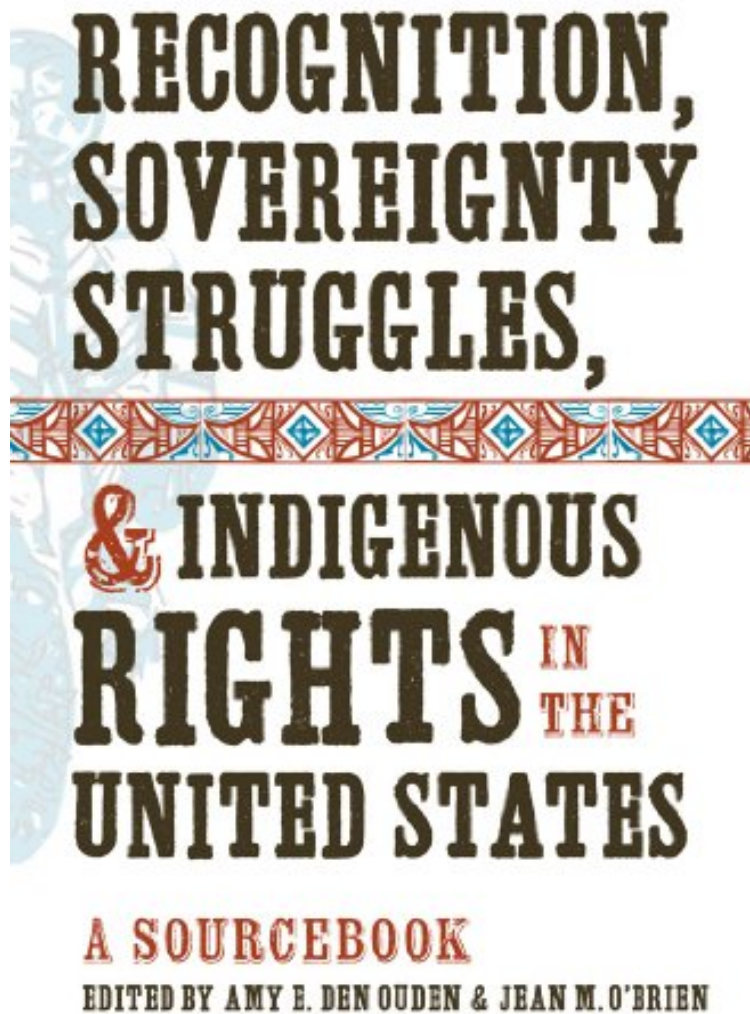


Recognition, Sovereignty Struggles, and Indigenous Rights in the United States: A Sourcebook

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From Brand: The University of North Carolina Press : Recognition, Sovereignty Struggles, and Indigenous Rights in the United States: A Sourcebook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Recognition, Sovereignty Struggles, and Indigenous Rights in the United States: A Sourcebook:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An exceptional sourcebook
By Jackie Grey
This text offers valuable insights into a field of complexities associated with the Federal Acknowledgment Process, a tedious and lengthy formulaic procedure by which the U.S. federal government determines, recognizes and seeks to legitimate Indigenous nations as real "tribes" and real "Indians." The book successfully sets out to complicate a standardized acknowledgment process applied to all Native nations in the U.S., regardless of their distinct cultural and historical contexts, including the context of racialization. A central argument throughout the text underscores the connection between federal recognition and Indigenous sovereignty. Native American sovereignty encompasses the right of Native nations to determine, protect, and preserve their own Indigenous identities. Conversely, the idea that the identities of hundreds of Native nations can be reduced to the same set of institutionalized rules raises questions about the underlying objectives of the recognition process, a process that emerged from a nation-state history of colonization and mass appropriation of Native lands. This book articulates an essential question: What does federal recognition ultimately seek to achieve? The book is a collection of essays written by a number of well-known and highly regarded scholars and activists. Most of these authors are themselves Indigenous and have firsthand experience with the political, economic, and social issues spawned by recognition, by the denial of recognition, and, in some cases, by the repudiation of federal recognition. (Especially interesting are the essays citing the benefits of "state" recognition.) Whether one agrees or disagrees with the assertions of these essays, the volume creates a dynamic forum for ongoing discussion and debate. The book is a must-read for students of Indigenous scholarship and for anyone interested in obtaining a deeper understanding of Native America. I have used this volume in my classroom and will continue to draw from its insights and perspectives. I wholeheartedly recommend this work.
1 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A one-sided collection attacking the federal recognition process
By David S Cohen
This book makes no distinction between Native-American groups that have been detribalized (the Mashpee, Pequot, Brotherton, and Schaghticoke Indians whose tribal statuses were terminated) and emergent Indian tribes (the Ramapoughs and the Lumbees that have only oral tradition of tribal ancestry). The problem is that in their efforts to attack the Federal recognition process that is meant to protect those Indian tribes that have had treaties with the United States as semi-sovereign nations within the United States, the editors and authors ignore published genealogical evidence that contradicts their arguments, particularly in the case the Lumbees and Ramapoughs that cannot prove descent from historic Indian tribes. Some of the authors have vested interests in attacking the Bureau of Indian Affairs. They argue that historical facts are subject to changing contexts, genealogical descent is the same as racialization, and the concept of tribe is a social fiction fabricated by outsiders. It purports to be a Sourcebook to introduce a broad audience, particularly students to the complexities of recognition, tribal nation sovereignty, and indigenous rights of Indians tribes that have not been recognized by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. If these unrecognized tribes desire the rights and privileges that derive from tribal sovereignty, they must prove descent as a group from a historic Indian tribe that has had a treaty with the United States or pre-statehood territories or colonies. State and Congressional recognition are political processes that have little or no concern for the historical record as opposed to the Federal Acknowledgment Process of the Bureau of Indian Affairs that his based on extensive research by anthropologists, historians, and genealogists.

This engaging collection surveys and clarifies the complex issue of federal and state recognition for Native American tribal nations in the United States. Den Ouden and O'Brien gather focused and teachable essays on key topics, debates, and case studies. Written by leading scholars in the field, including historians, anthropologists, legal scholars, and political scientists, the essays cover the history of recognition, focus on recent legal and cultural processes, and examine contemporary recognition struggles nationwide. Contributors are Joanne Barker (Lenape), Kathleen A. Brown-Perez (Brothertown), Rosemary Cambra (Muwekma Ohlone), Amy E. Den Ouden, Timothy Q. Evans (Haliwa-Saponi), Les W. Field, Angela A. Gonzales (Hopi), Rae Gould (Nipmuc), J. Kehaulani Kauanui (Kanaka Maoli), K. Alexa Koenig, Alan Leventhal, Malinda Maynor Lowery (Lumbee), Jean M. O'Brien (White Earth Ojibwe), John Robinson, Jonathan Stein, Ruth Garby Torres (Schaghticoke), and David E. Wilkins (Lumbee).

Impressive volume. . . . Recommended. All academic levels/libraries.--Choice
A real strength of this book is the inclusion of a significant number of contributions by Native scholars.--Oregon Historical Quarterly
This volume deserves a wide readership among scholars, students, and community leaders interested in the political rights of indigenous people in the United States.--American Indian Quarterly
As a primer on the complexities of recognition struggles, and as a source book providing insightful case studies for undergraduate instruction, the book is a rousing success.--Western Historical Quarterly
An excellent selection of interdisciplinary perspectives on a critically important question. A valuable contribution.--Jessica Cattelino, University of California, Los Angeles
From the Inside Flap
This engaging collection surveys and clarifies the complex issue of federal and state recognition for Native American tribal nations in the United States. Den Ouden and O'Brien gather focused and teachable essays on key topics, debates, and case studies. Written by leading scholars in the field, including historians, anthropologists, legal scholars, and political scientists, the essays cover the history of recognition, focus on recent legal and cultural processes, and examine

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