Public Lecture:

**Nanta Hosh Chahta Immi?**
(What Are Choctaw Lifeways?): Cultural Preservation in the Casino Era

Sean Gantt, PhD (University of New Mexico)

**Wednesday**
**April 30**
**4:00 pm**
Glenn Black Laboratory
(423 N Fess)
A light reception will follow.
The lecture is free and open to the public.

This talk will discuss recent research with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) and will focus on their contemporary Tribal cultural preservation practices and community based cultural revival efforts. In particular I will discuss debates within the tribe over the use of economic incentives to encourage participation in cultural activities at the Annual Choctaw Indian Fair and the growing Okla Okhalechi (Awakeners) cultural revival movement. I will address these larger concerns with ethnographic data from MBCI tribal members collected over 18 months of fieldwork in East Central Mississippi. I will also address concerns about the impacts of tribal economic development programs and how and if they are affecting contemporary cultural preservation efforts.

*Sponsored by the Indiana University Department of Anthropology and the First Nations Educational and Cultural Center.*