

Journal #4761 from sdc 9.8.20

The First 5,000 Years

No connection

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An Inuit hunter with his kayak in 1854

Our deepest sadness at the passing of David Graeber. He was all too young and easily one of the most brilliant authors ever featured on delanceyplace.com.

Today's encore selection -- from *Debt: The First 5,000 Years* by David Graeber. The supposedly virtuous act of giving is often instead an act meant to create an obligation, an act whereby the giver measures himself against the receiver and requires a repayment, even if that repayment is gratitude:

"[Here] are the words of an actual hunter-gatherer -- an Inuit from Greenland made famous in the Danish writer Peter Freuchen's *Book of the Eskimo*. Freuchen tells how one day, after coming home hungry from an unsuccessful walrus-hunting expedition, he found one of the successful hunters dropping off several hundred pounds of meat [for him]. He thanked him profusely. The man objected indignantly:

"'Up in our country we are human!' said the hunter. 'And since we are human we help each other. We don't like to hear anybody say thanks for that. What I get today you may get tomorrow. Up here we say that by gifts one makes slaves and by whips one makes dogs.

"The last line is something of an anthropological classic, and similar statements about the refusal to calculate credits and debits can be found through the anthropological literature on egalitarian hunting societies. Rather than seeing himself as human because he could make economic calculations, the hunter insisted that being truly human meant refusing to make such calculations, refusing to measure or remember who had given what to whom, for the precise reason that doing so would inevitably create a world where we began 'comparing power with power, measuring, calculating' and reducing each other to slaves or dogs through debt."

Title: *Debt -- Updated and Expanded: The First 5,000 Years* **author:** David Graeber
publisher: Melville House **date:** Copyright 2011 by David Graeber **pg.** 79

DelanceyPlace.com

No connection. So it's been a couple weeks. How's distance learning working out? There are as many answers to that question as there are students in the Clark County School District, i.e., 318,593. But a few patterns are developing, and the less income a household has, the more likely things are not going well. That stands to reason, but in the piece leading the Current this morning reporter April Corbin Girnus shares some preliminary stats that underscore the point. She also inventories some of the many ways distance learning is failing to consistently and effectively reach thousands of Southern Nevada students. Are there heroic efforts? There are heroic efforts. But there are also a lot of problems, and it's not clear they'll be sorted any time soon. [Distance learning has multiple cracks, and students are falling through them](#)

From Red Ink to Robot

As schools across the country move to online or hybrid class structures, many schools are outsourcing some instruction and grading to virtual education platforms. For example, Edgenuity offers over 300 online classes for middle and high school students — with subjects ranging from math to social studies, AP classes to electives — made up of instructional videos and virtual assignments as well as tests and exams. Edgenuity provides the lessons and goes so far as to grade the assignments.

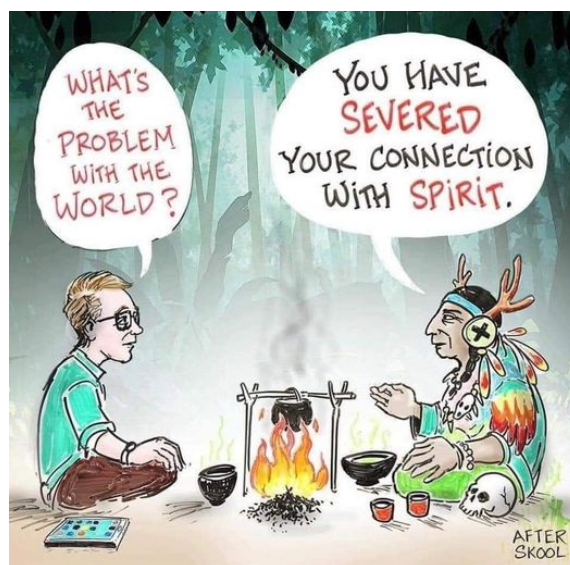
There's just one big problem. Students' answers are [graded by artificial intelligence](#) — an algorithm programmed to look for specific keywords in the answers. Without a key word, the answer is rendered wrong, even if it isn't. One teacher, and mother of a seventh-grader, decided to take a closer look after her dejected son got a 50 out of 100 on a history test, even though he'd correctly answered the short answer question. Soon she figured out how to game the system. Now her son writes two long sentences, followed by a disjointed list of keywords: "anything that seems relevant to the question," she said. More than 20,000 schools currently use Edgenuity's platform, including 20 of the country's 25 largest school districts. With all those students using the system, others were bound to have figured out other ways to fool the algorithms.

Teachers do have the ability to review any content students submit and can override Edgenuity's assigned grades. And sometimes students get caught keyword-mashing. But most students said they'd never seen a teacher change a grade that Edgenuity had assigned to them. (The Verge

'The World That Darwin Never Saw': Scientists Discover 30 New Marine Species in the Galapagos

Tiffany Duong, EcoWatch

Duong writes: "International marine scientists have discovered 30 new species in the deep waters off the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador, highlighting how unique the ecosystems of the islands are as well as how little we know about the deep sea." [READ MORE](#)



Tribe receives virus recovery money

Red Lake Comprehensive Health, a health organization in Red Lake Nation in northwestern Minnesota, is receiving nearly \$1.5 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help tribal residents prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19.

The funding is part of \$100 million in grants to tribes across the nation as part of the federal government's Indian Community Development Block Grant Imminent Threat program, which provides funding to address problems that pose an immediate threat to public health or safety of tribal residents.

The grant money will be used for several projects on tribal lands nationwide, such as building new rental housing to address overcrowding and homelessness; building transitional housing for people who must quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19; and building an emergency operations center for COVID-19 issues.

"Tribes are finding new strategies in the face of the pandemic to address the health and safety of their communities through these grants," said Joseph Galvan, HUD Midwest regional administrator.

<http://e.startribune.com/Olive/ODN/StarTribune/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=MST%2F2020%2F09%2F06&entity=Ar01900&sk=35C2C40D&mode=text>

The End of Oil Is Near

Antonia Juhasz, Sierra Club

Juhasz writes: "This past spring, coastlines around the globe took on the feel of an enemy invasion as hundreds of massive oil tankers overwhelmed seaports from South Africa to Singapore. Locals and industry analysts alike used the word armada - typically applied to fleets of warships - to describe scenes such as when a group of tankers left Saudi Arabia en masse and another descended on China." [READ MORE](#)

Dead Chicks, Delayed Prescriptions: Trump's Mail Slowdown Leaves Rural America Disconnected

Phil McCausland, NBC News

McCausland writes: "When Jacob Gray opened the box of chicks he ordered, he saw that about 300 of them had been mashed to a pulp. The 100 or so birds that survived tread on their dead fellows and nibbled on what remained of them." [READ MORE](#)



[Reno's Arts Economy Dries Up Without Burning Man Sep 04, 2020 04:45 pm](#)

If this was a normal year, right now, thousands of people would be flocking to the middle of the northern Nevada desert to watch “The Man” burn. But it’s not a normal year, and this year’s Burning Man counterculture outdoor festival has been canceled along with many, many live events across the region. That’s taking its toll on the arts, the community and the economy.



YOUTUBE.COM

[Now That the Buffalo's Gone - Buffy St Marie](#)

Seven Historic Trails [https://www.traveltrivia.com/7-historic-trails-every-american-should-experience/XwcaMySttQAH-RCL?](https://www.traveltrivia.com/7-historic-trails-every-american-should-experience/XwcaMySttQAH-RCL?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=1145844412)

[utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=1145844412](https://www.traveltrivia.com/7-historic-trails-every-american-should-experience/XwcaMySttQAH-RCL?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=1145844412)

The U.S. national parks offer endless opportunities to explore historical and scenic locales, but did you know that the National Park Service also oversees several fascinating National Historic Trails? Hundreds of thousands of colonists, missionaries, soldiers, traders, fur trappers, settlers, explorers, Native Americans, and even letter carriers walked, paddled, or rode across vast areas of the country via a network of trails — long before many colonies, territories, or states even existed. Whether you have time to traverse an entire route over multiple days or just a few hours, spending time on one of these seven National Historic Trails is an incredible opportunity to engage with U.S. history.



Credit: [MattRuffmanPhotography/ Shutterstock](#)

Commemorating a tragic chapter in U.S. history, the [Trail of Tears National Historic Trail](#) follows the land and water routes U.S. troops and state militia took to relocate indigenous tribes from their homelands to Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma. After Congress passed the Indian Removal Act by a slim, controversial margin in 1830, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole, and Choctaw nations were offered federal lands in Indian Territory — if they gave up their ancestral lands in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

Some tribes agreed, feeling it was futile to try to fight the U.S. government, but many refused. Beginning in 1838, [troops forcibly evicted more than 16,000 Cherokee](#) and thousands of other tribal people from the region, using land and water routes across nine states. It's estimated that as many as [25 percent of them died on the way](#), earning the trail's nickname. Drought, harsh weather, starvation, and disease took their lives, and many were buried in unmarked graves.

The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail isn't a single trail — it's a vast network of trails and rivers. Today you can find numerous historic sites, museums, memorials, and artifacts that provide both a sobering look into this period of U.S. history and insight into the fascinating cultures and histories of the Native American nations that were displaced. The National Park Service provides a helpful [interactive map](#) of where to go and what to see, categorized by state.

Places to see include Kentucky's [Trail of Tears Commemorative Park](#), an encampment where two Cherokee chiefs are buried, and the [Museum of the Cherokee Indian](#) in North Carolina, which tells the 13,000-year-history of the Cherokee, with artifacts, artwork, and computer-generated animation. Learn the fascinating history of Major Ridge, a Cherokee leader who played a pivotal role before the nation's relocation, at Georgia's [Chieftains Museum](#). See part of the route where the trail crosses the Mississippi River in Missouri at the [Trail of Tears State Park](#). Oklahoma's [Cherokee National Museum](#) contains multiple permanent Trail of Tears exhibits across six galleries.

Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail



Credit: [Marisa Estivill](#)/ Shutterstock

For a decidedly different (but equally intriguing) trail experience from the American West's deserts or the East Coast's colonial past, head to the island of Hawaii. Also known as "The Big Island," Hawaii is home to the 175-mile [Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail](#), which traverses through hundreds of ancient Hawaiian cultural and historical sites along the island's southeastern, southern, and western edges. The first Polynesians who reached the island around the year 400 C.E. created the coastal trails, and islanders ever since have used the paths to travel between communities and sacred sites. "Ala" means road or trail, and "Kahakai" means beach or seashore in Hawaiian.

After intensive discussions with lineal descendants, landowners, and community members, the network of trails became a National Historic Trail in 2000 as a way to preserve, protect, and interpret traditional Native Hawaiian culture. Much of the land is privately owned, and some trail segments are still being readied for public access. You can join portions of the trail from a [state-owned access point](#), and the island's four national parks: [Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park](#), [Pu'uuhonua o Hōnaunau National Historic Park](#), [Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park](#), and [Pu'ukohola National Historic Site](#).

The trail passes petroglyphs, ceremonial sites, fishponds, monuments, and ancient dwellings, and it varies in composition — from lava flows and sandy shores to stepping stones and modern roads. One of the best-preserved sites is the remains of the [Kauleoli fishing village](#), at the Pu'uuhonua O Hōnaunau National Historic Park's southern border.

[Karl Larson](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyFcZ0kPoGc>

Scholarships with October Deadlines

<u>Scholarship Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
<u>AOTF Scholarship Program</u>	\$5,000	10/17/2020
<u>ASNT Fellowship Award</u>	\$20,000	10/15/2020
<u>Association for Iron & Steel Technology Scholarships</u>	\$3,000	10/31/2020
<u>AWWA Academic Achievement Awards</u>	\$3,000	10/01/2020
<u>BCL Mud Makeup Scholarship</u>	\$2,500	10/03/2020
<u>BMO Capital Markets Lime Connect Equity Through Education Scholarship</u>	\$10,000	10/18/2020
<u>Brooks Instrument Undergraduate Engineering Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/31/2020
<u>Bruce Fishkin Scholarship Fund</u>	Varies	10/31/2020
<u>CALG Scholarship Program</u>	\$1,000	10/23/2020
<u>CCMW Educators Scholarships</u>	\$1,000	10/31/2020
<u>Center for Hellenic Studies Fellowship</u>	\$18,000	10/01/2020
<u>Chips Quinn Scholars Program</u>	Varies	10/01/2020
<u>CHS/DAI Joint Fellowships</u>	\$18,000	10/16/2020
<u>CME Beef Industry Scholarship</u>	\$1,500	10/30/2020
<u>Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship</u>	\$20,000	10/31/2020
<u>Craft Research Fund—Project Grant</u>	\$15,000	10/01/2020
<u>disABLEDperson Inc. Fall National Scholarship Competition</u>	Varies	10/31/2020
<u>Dispensing Health-Pharmacy Technician Scholarship</u>	\$500	10/01/2020
<u>Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship</u>	\$10,000	10/28/2020

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<u>Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship</u>	\$10,000	10/28/2020
<u>Hinsdale (HJWC) Junior Women's Club Scholarship</u>	\$3,300	10/01/2020
<u>Horatio Alger National Scholarship</u>	\$25,000	10/25/2020
<u>Infinitus Dream Scholarship</u>	\$3,000	10/31/2020
<u>International Essential Tremor Foundation Scholarship</u>	\$1,000	10/31/2020
<u>Levine Scholars Program</u>	\$155,000	10/19/2020
<u>Ludo Frevel Crystallography Scholarship</u>	Varies	10/16/2020

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<u>Levine Scholars Program</u>	\$155,000	10/19/2020
<u>Ludo Frevel Crystallography Scholarship</u>	Varies	10/16/2020
<u>Mark Zinger Memorial Foundation Scholarship</u>	\$2,500	10/01/2020
<u>Medicalfieldcareers.com Healthcare Scholarship</u>	\$1,500	10/01/2020
<u>Mildred C. Hanson SIOR Memorial Scholarship</u>	\$4,000	10/31/2020
<u>Motorola Solutions Foundation Public Safety Explorer Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/31/2020
<u>NASN Research Grants</u>	Varies	10/31/2020
<u>National Eagle Scout Association Merit Scholarships</u>	\$5,000	10/31/2020
<u>National Eagle Scout Association STEM Scholarship</u>	\$50,000	10/31/2020
<u>National Rice Month Scholarship Video Contest</u>	\$5,000	10/31/2020
<u>National Strength and Conditioning Association Foundation Challenge Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/15/2020
<u>National Strength and Conditioning Association Foundation High School Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/15/2020
<u>National Strength and Conditioning Association Foundation Jerry Martin Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/15/2020
<u>National Strength and Conditioning Association Foundation Minority Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/15/2020
<u>National Strength and Conditioning Association Foundation Women's Scholarship</u>	\$2,000	10/15/2020
<u>NEWH Harvey Nudelman Scholarship</u>	\$5,000	10/03/2020
<u>NEWH Women Leaders Scholarship</u>	\$5,000	10/17/2020

<u>NSHSS Foundation STEM Scholarships</u>	\$1,000	10/15/2020
<u>Ohio College Opportunity Grant</u>	Varies	10/01/2020
<u>Olin E. Teague Memorial Scholarship</u>	\$4,000	10/11/2020
<u>Phi Kappa Psi Freshman Scholarship</u>	\$1,000	10/01/2020
<u>Posse Veterans Program Full-Tuition Scholarship</u>	Varies	10/09/2020
<u>Rhodes Scholarship</u>	Varies	10/07/2020
<u>Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship</u>	\$5,000	10/21/2020
<u>Shelton National Leadership Scholarship</u>	\$5,000	10/15/2020
<u>Students With A Heart Foundation Scholarship</u>	\$6,000	10/01/2020
<u>The Francis L. Toner Fellowship for Veterans</u>	\$1,000	10/28/2020
<u>The Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women's Studies</u>	\$5,000	10/15/2020
<u>VFW Voice of Democracy Competition</u>	\$30,000	10/31/2020
<u>Walt Disney Imaginations Design Competition Project Challenge</u>	Varies	10/11/2020
<u>WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program</u>	Varies	10/05/2020
<u>Winston Churchill Foundation of the USA Scholarship Program</u>	Varies	10/31/2020
<u>WTS Leadership Legacy Scholarship for Graduates</u>	\$5,000	10/21/2020
<u>WTS Portland Chapter Gail Achterman Leadership Scholarship</u>	\$6,800	10/25/2020
<u>WTS Portland Scholarships</u>	\$6,800	10/22/2020