

Elliott West, Alumni Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas, specializes in the history of the American West, environmental history and the history of American Indians. He is author of eight books. *The Contested Plains: Indians, Goldseekers and the Rush to Colorado* (1998) won several national awards, including the Francis Parkman Prize for the year's outstanding book in American history, and it and *The Last Indian War: The Nez Perce Story* (2009), both received the Western History Association's award as the book of the year. He has been recognized twice as his university's teacher of the year, and in 2009 was one of three finalists for the Robert Foster Cherry Award for the outstanding classroom teacher in the nation. He lives in Fayetteville, Arkansas with his wife, the Rev. Suzanne Stoner.