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**Abstract Title:** Maritime Indians: The Coastal Algonquians of North Carolina

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**Abstract Description:** The present-day visitor to the Outer Banks of North Carolina will encounter numerous place names with Native American origins. Yet very little is known about the original inhabitants, and most of what is known is directly related to the interaction between Algonquians and English colonists in the late 1500s. Moreover, there is a tendency to think of Native Americans as exclusively terrestrial people. Although the Carolina Algonquians did not develop extensive ocean navigation and exploration, evidence strongly suggests that their culture was heavily influenced by the sea and the coast well-before the arrival of Europeans. This presentation uses a multidisciplinary approach to examine the history and culture of the Algonquians of eastern North Carolina. It will also look at the interaction between Algonquians and Europeans in the 16th, 17th, and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. It will do so, however, by putting the Algonquians at the center, rather than the periphery, of the analysis. Therefore, this project will be looking at history in the region from a different perspective, de-colonizing the older historical colonial narratives of the region.