Our Department

The American Indian Studies Department was established in 1977. It offers a major and minor in American Indian Studies leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts through the College of Arts and Sciences.

We welcome all students, Native and non-Native, to our courses, and we serve a diverse student population from all over the world, including Native students from across North America.

This diversity in student population, the interdisciplinary backgrounds and research interests of the faculty, and the diverse needs we serve on and off campus mean that we teach comparative courses, including content on Canada, Latin America, and global indigeneity as it relates to American Indian issues.

For the greater University community, the courses in American Indian Studies, together with the research conducted or sponsored by the Department, provide an expanded approach to the study of American history, diversity, and cultures. For our students, our courses offer an opportunity to learn how to critically engage complex issues.
A Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in American Indian Studies

Allows students and graduates:

- to think critically
- to write carefully
- to apply knowledge in diverse complex situations

Teaches:

- the importance of Native voices and perspectives
- the realities of Native cultures, experiences, and histories
- the variety of Native experiences and contemporary situations
- the necessity of being attentive to others

Prepares graduates:

- for lifelong careers of learning and thinking
- for a diverse world
- for living and working with, in, and around Native communities
- for a better understanding of American Indian issues
- for graduate or professional school in related disciplines, especially in history, literature, anthropology, sociology, law, and others

Enhances:

- other degree programs, if students want to learn about the connection to Native issues
- the ability to understand the realities of life in the United States

The Curriculum

Courses offered:

IS 122 American Indians and Tradition
IS 123 American Indians and Culture
IS 151 White Images of Native Americans
IS 171 Hollywood Indians
IS 181 Native Americans before 1600
IS 201 History of the Sioux
IS 202 Cultures of the Sioux
IS 203 History of the Anishinabe
IS 204 Cultures of the Anishinabe
IS 207 History of the Three Affiliated Tribes
IS 208 Cultures of the Three Affiliated Tribes
IS 221 North American Indians before 1815
IS 222 North American Indians since 1815
IS 230 Approaches to Native Cultures
IS 240 Research and Writing
IS 311 Health and American Indian Cultures *
IS 320 Native Cultural Landscapes
IS 344 Education and American Indians
IS 346 American Indian Women
IS 348 Beyond the Reservation
IS 352 Native Philosophies and Religion
IS 354 Dynamics of Conquest and Resistance
IS 356 Law, Culture, and Communities
IS 360 Oral Traditions
IS 385 Sustainable Communities
IS 390 Family, Kinship, Gender
IS 395 Ethnohistory of North America
IS 410 Indigenous Identities
IS 379 Special Topics (varies)
IS 430 Internship
IS 492 Directed Readings
IS 494 Independent Studies

* Approved to carry graduate student credit

For information on requirements for the major or minor, and for semester course offerings, go to http://arts-sciences.und.edu/indian-studies/

The Faculty

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