

## AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES

### American Indigenous Studies

*Closest affiliation to the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences*

*American Indian Studies Program*

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Faculty: Rhonda Dass, Chelsea Mead

American Indigenous Studies (AIS) provides an interdisciplinary and broad understanding of Indigenous Americans, especially the Dakota, and their respective ways of life in the past, present, and future. AIS welcomes all students - Native and non-native - to pursue knowledge of Indigenous American cultures, knowledge, languages, histories, politics, media, and other topics. The AIS program will prepare students to pursue graduate studies and careers located in tribal communities or in ethnically diverse settings. Incorporating Indigenous perspectives into the curriculum, AIS facilitates a space whereby Indigenous American worldviews will be an enduring and integral part of the diverse intellectual atmosphere of the University.

#### POLICIES/INFORMATION

Admission to Major is granted by the American Indian Studies Program. American Indian Studies adheres to the minimum University admission requirements: 1) a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours and 2) a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 ("C").

#### AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES BA

Degree completion = 120 credits

##### Prerequisites for Major

|     |     |  |
|-----|-----|--|
| AIS | 101 | Introductions to American Indigenous Studies (3)         |
| AIS | 102 | The Story of American Indian Country to 1900 (4)         |
| AIS | 103 | The Story of American Indian Country 1900 to Present (3) |

##### Major Common Core

|  |      |  |
|--|------|--|
| AIS  | 220W | Introduction to Tribal Sovereignty (3) |
| AIS  | 230W | American Indians of Minnesota (3)      |
| AIS  | 460  | Behaving Like Relatives (3)            |
| (choose 3 credits - one version of the course) |      |  |
| AIS  | 210  | Oral Traditions (3)                    |
| AIS  | 210W | Oral Traditions (3)                    |

##### Major Restricted Electives

|     |     |                       |
|-----|-----|-----------------------|
| AIS | 110 | Dakota Culture I (4)  |
| AIS | 111 | Dakota Culture II (4) |

##### Major Unrestricted Electives

###### Program Electives

(choose 12 credits - 4 courses for a minimum of 12 credits)

|     |      |  |
|-----|------|--|
| AIS | 240  | American Indian Women (3)                          |
| AIS | 240W | American Indian Women (3)                          |
| AIS | 275  | Selected Topics (3)                                |
| AIS | 300W | American Indian Leaders (3)                        |
| AIS | 340  | American Indians in Film (3)                       |
| AIS | 360  | Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Struggles (3) |
| AIS | 380  | The Sacred Landscape (3)                           |
| AIS | 410  | American Indian Folklife (3)                       |
| AIS | 455  | Museum Science and Representation (3)              |
| AIS | 475  | Selected Topics (3)                                |
| AIS | 497  | Internship (1-12)                                  |
| AIS | 499  | Individual Study (1-6)                             |

###### Outside Electives (choose 9 credits)

|      |     |   |
|------|-----|---|
| ANTH | 331 | Environmental Anthropology (3)                |
| ANTH | 334 | Native American Cultures of North America (3) |
| ANTH | 410 | Archaeology of Minnesota (3)                  |

|      |      |  |
|------|------|--|
| ANTH | 411  | Archaeology of Native North America (3)  |
| ANTH | 412  | Archaeology of Latin America (3)         |
| ENG  | 318  | Multicultural Literature (2-4)           |
| ENG  | 436  | Native American Literature (2-4)         |
| LAW  | 234  | Policing in a Diverse Society (3)        |
| PHIL | 115W | Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3) |
| POL  | 426  | Racial and Ethnic Politics (3)           |

##### Other Graduation Requirements

**Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:** Language (8 credits)

**Required Minor:** Yes. Any.

#### AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES BS

##### Prerequisites for Major

|     |     |  |
|-----|-----|--|
| AIS | 101 | Introduction to American Indigenous Studies (3)          |
| AIS | 102 | The Story of American Indian Country to 1900 (4)         |
| AIS | 103 | The Story of American Indian Country 1900 to Present (3) |

##### Major Common Core

|                                       |      |  |
|---------------------------------------|------|--|
| AIS                                   | 220W | Introduction to Tribal Sovereignty (3) |
| AIS                                   | 230W | American Indians of Minnesota (3)      |
| AIS                                   | 460  | Behaving Like Relatives (3)            |
| (choose one course below - 3 credits) |      |  |
| AIS                                   | 210  | Oral Traditions (3)                    |
| AIS                                   | 210W | Oral Traditions (3)                    |

##### Major Unrestricted Electives

###### Program Electives

(choose 12 credits - 4 courses for a minimum of 12 credits)

|     |      |  |
|-----|------|--|
| AIS | 240  | American Indian Women (3)                          |
| AIS | 240W | American Indian Women (3)                          |
| AIS | 275  | Selected Topics (3)                                |
| AIS | 300W | American Indian Leaders (3)                        |
| AIS | 340  | American Indians in Film (3)                       |
| AIS | 355  | Museum Science and American Indians (3)            |
| AIS | 360  | Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Struggles (3) |
| AIS | 380  | The Sacred Landscape (3)                           |
| AIS | 410  | American Indian Folklife (3)                       |
| AIS | 475  | Selected Topics (3)                                |
| AIS | 497  | Internship (1-12)                                  |
| AIS | 499  | Individual Study (1-6)                             |

###### Outside Electives (choose 9 credits)

|      |      |   |
|------|------|---|
| ANTH | 331  | Environmental Anthropology (3)                |
| ANTH | 334  | Native American Cultures of North America (3) |
| ANTH | 410  | Archaeology of Minnesota (3)                  |
| ANTH | 411  | Archaeology of Native North America (3)       |
| ENG  | 318  | Multicultural Literature (2-4)                |
| ENG  | 436  | Native American Literature (2-4)              |
| LAW  | 234  | Policing in a Diverse Society (3)             |
| PHIL | 115W | Philosophy of Race, Class and Gender (3)      |
| POL  | 426  | Racial and Ethnic Politics (3)                |

**Required Minor:** Yes. Any.

#### AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES MINOR

##### Minor Core

|     |      |  |
|-----|------|--|
| AIS | 210W | Oral Traditions (3)                    |
| AIS | 220W | Introduction to Tribal Sovereignty (3) |
| AIS | 230W | American Indians of Minnesota (3)      |
| AIS | 460  | Behaving Like Relatives (3)            |

##### Minor Electives (choose 9 credits)

|     |      |                             |
|-----|------|-----------------------------|
| AIS | 210W | Oral Traditions (3)         |
| AIS | 240  | American Indian Women (3)   |
| AIS | 275  | Selected Topics (3)         |
| AIS | 300W | American Indian Leaders (3) |

## AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES CONTINUED

|     |     |   |
|-----|-----|---|
| AIS | 340 | American Indians in Film (3)                      |
| AIS | 360 | Indigenous People and Environmental Struggles (3) |
| AIS | 380 | The Sacred Landscape (3)                          |
| AIS | 410 | American Indian Folklife (3)                      |
| AIS | 455 | Museum Science and Representation (3)             |
| AIS | 475 | Selected Topics (3)                               |
| AIS | 497 | Internship (1-12)                                 |
| AIS | 499 | Individual Study (1-6)                            |

### **AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES CERTIFICATE**

Students obtain an understanding of the Indigenous American experience in the United States. Students begin to comprehend the vast history of native cultures and the scope of contemporary issues facing Indigenous Americans today. The certificate is designed to enhance any major.

#### **Major Restricted Electives**

##### Foundation Courses (choose 6 credits)

|     |      |   |
|-----|------|---|
| AIS | 101  | Introduction to American Indigenous Studies (3) |
| AIS | 210W | Oral Traditions (3)                             |
| AIS | 220W | Introduction to Tribal Sovereignty (3)          |
| AIS | 230W | American Indians of Minnesota (3)               |
| AIS | 240W | American Indian Women (3)                       |
| AIS | 275  | Selected Topics (3)                             |

#### **Major Unrestricted Electives**

##### Expanded courses (choose 9 credits)

|      |     |  |
|------|-----|--|
| AIS  | 340 | American Indians in Film (3)                       |
| AIS  | 380 | The Sacred Landscape (3)                           |
| AIS  | 410 | American Indian Folklife (3)                       |
| AIS  | 455 | Museum Science and Representation (3)              |
| AIS  | 460 | Behaving Like Relatives (3)                        |
| AIS  | 475 | Selected Topics (3)                                |
| ANTH | 410 | Archaeology of Minnesota (3)                       |
| ANTH | 411 | Archaeology of Native North America (3)            |
| ANTH | 440 | Native American Cultures of North America (3)      |
| ENG  | 318 | Multicultural Literature (2-4)                     |
| ENG  | 436 | Native American Literature (2-4)                   |
| SOC  | 360 | Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Struggles (3) |

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

##### **AIS 101 (3) Introduction to American Indigenous Studies**

Class introduces students to history of the discipline and surveys both historic and contemporary topics of importance to American Indian Studies including gender roles, education, sovereignty, treaties, and oral tradition.

GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 102 (4) The Story of American Indian Country to 1900**

The story of American Indian Country has often been told from the perspective of others instead of from the community. This class re-examines the narrative and shifts the perspective of the story. Topics of cross-cultural interactions, policy formations, cultural evolution, survival and negotiation are examined.

Variable

GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 103 (3) The Story of American Indian Country 1900 to Present**

The story of American Indian Country has often been told from the perspective of others instead of from the community. The class re-examines the narrative and shifts the perspective of the story. Topics of cross-cultural interactions, policy formations, cultural evolution, survival and negotiation are examined.

Fall (On-Demand), Spring (On-Demand), Summer (On-Demand)

GE-5, GE-7

##### **AIS 110 (4) Dakota Culture I**

This course provides the first steps in understanding the Dakota culture through the language of the Oyate or Dakota people. Students will be introduced to culture and concepts through the Dakota language and learn to understand the words from a Dakota worldview.

Pre: AIS 101

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 111 (4) Dakota Culture II**

This course provides the second step in understanding the Dakota culture through the language of the Oyate or Dakota people. Students will continue to explore an understanding of culture and concepts through the Dakota language and learn to understand the words from a Dakota worldview.

Pre: AIS 101, AIS 110

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 210 (3) Oral Traditions**

Oral traditions are at the base of all American Indian cultures. This class will provide students with the necessary tools for a better understanding of traditional knowledge and its importance within diverse traditional cultures.

Variable

GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 210W (3) Oral Traditions**

Oral traditions are at the base of all American Indian cultures. This class will provide students with the necessary tools for a better understanding of traditional knowledge and its importance within diverse traditional cultures.

Variable

WI, GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 220W (3) Introduction to Tribal Sovereignty**

Course introduces students to the legal side of being American Indian. Politics and policies will be examined to show how a contemporary native experience is shaped through American courts, Presidential chambers, and Native activist movements.

Pre: AIS 101

Variable

WI, GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 230W (3) American Indians of Minnesota**

This course will provide an overview of Minnesota Indian nations and their relations to each other and the effects of European incursion. Subsequent relations will focus on the US-Dakota war and its aftermath.

Variable

WI, GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 240 (3) American Indian Women**

Being American Indian and being a woman creates a unique situation for women who have been directly influenced by the differences of gender roles from intersecting cultures. This course will focus on how those differences have affected American Indian Women.

Variable

GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

##### **AIS 240W (3) American Indian Women**

Being American Indian and being woman creates a unique situation for women who have been directly influenced by the differences of gender roles from two intersecting cultures. This course will focus on how those differences have affected American Indian Women.

Variable

WI, GE-5, GE-7

Diverse Cultures - Purple

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## AMERICAN INDIGENOUS STUDIES CONTINUED

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### **AIS 275 (3) Selected Topics: Varies**

The course is offered according to student demand and instructor availability/expertise. A variety of topics related to ethnic and cultural areas will provide curriculum enrichment on an ongoing basis.

Variable

### **AIS 300W (3) American Indian Leaders**

Examines leadership prior to European colonization, the overlap of Indian and colonial leadership, contemporary governmental leadership, and contemporary tribal leadership. Defines what is and is not leadership and examine characteristics of individuals deserving the title of leader among American Indians.

Variable

WI

### **AIS 340 (3) American Indians in Film**

This course examines American Indian identity as it relates to Hollywood film industry history. Underlying issues of contemporary Indians are also addressed through an introduction to Native Cinema and the effects of current technologies and globalization.

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Purple

### **AIS 360 (3) Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Struggles**

Introduces students to the differences between indigenous and Western views of the environment. Analyzes the impact of invasion and encroachment on indigenous societies' interactions with nature. Compares historical and contemporary environmental issues in indigenous societies.

Variable

GE-10

Diverse Cultures - Purple

### **AIS 380 (3) The Sacred Landscape**

Course introduces students to the various ways that land is used by American Indians. We will explore traditional land use, contemporary land use, and land issues that impact American Indians and cultural activities that are tied to the land.

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Purple

### **AIS 398 (0) CPT: Co-Operative Experience**

Curricular Practical Training: Co-Operative Experience is a zero-credit full-time practical training experience for one summer and on adjacent fall or spring term. Special rules apply to preserve full-time student status. Please contact an advisor in your program for complete information.

Pre: At least 60 credits earned; in good standing; instructor permission; co-op contract; other prerequisites may also apply.

Fall, Spring, Summer

### **AIS 410 (3) American Indian Folklife**

This course will provide students with a greater understanding of the social structure of American Indian nations through the production, reproduction and revival of traditions. This will include looking at oral, musical, kinetic, ideational, and material traditions.

Variable

### **AIS 455 (3) Museum Science and Representation**

Introduces students to museum science and how historic constructs, practices, and contemporary issues of the museum as an institution relates to the representation of American Indians. Focus will be on translating Western practices to an Indigenous aesthetic.

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Gold

### **AIS 460 (3) Behaving Like Relatives**

Students gain practical knowledge of fieldwork techniques and experience through experiential learning. Students learn to approach elders appropriately with regards to age, social status, and gender, in order to build a cross-cultural kinship relationship i.e., to behave like relatives.

Pre: AIS 101 or AIS 102

Variable

Diverse Cultures - Gold

### **AIS 475 (3) Selected Topics: Varies**

This course is offered according to student demand and instructor availability/expertise. A variety of topics related to ethnic and cultural areas will provide curriculum enrichment on an ongoing basis.

Variable

### **AIS 497 (1-12) Internship**

Field experience in a setting appropriate to the discipline of American Indian Studies. Requires advanced standing in American Indian Studies and consent of supervising faculty.

Diverse Cultures - Gold

### **AIS 499 (1-6) Individual Study**

Allows for an advanced level pursuit of special projects of research on an independent basis. Requires coordination with a faculty member.

On-Demand