

# Exploring the Rich Cultural Heritage of American Indian and Indigenous Studies

American Indian and Indigenous Studies at NSU draws on the traditions of ethnic studies, which is the interdisciplinary study of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity. American Indian and Indigenous Studies focuses particularly on the experiences, histories, perspectives, and scholarship of American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and other Indigenous peoples in the U.S. and beyond.

## A Minor With Purpose (and Career Opportunities)

American Indian and Indigenous Studies is a minor you can take with any major. It complements nearly any field of study. This minor can lead to careers in fields such as education, activism, government, museum curation, law, business, tourism, and cultural preservation, among others. Tribal governments and enterprises are some of the largest employers in Louisiana.

## Gain Unique Perspectives

American Indian and Indigenous Studies classes will provide you with unique perspectives on history, culture, and society that are often overlooked in mainstream education.

## Make a Positive Impact

By studying Indigenous issues and histories, you'll have the opportunity to learn about and support efforts to address ongoing challenges faced by Native nations and communities, and contribute to creating positive change.

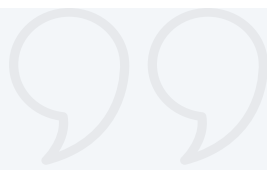
## Address Historical Injustices

By studying the experiences of indigenous peoples, you can help raise awareness and address the ongoing effects of historical injustices, such as colonization and cultural genocide, and contribute to the ongoing process of reconciliation.



Through the study of Indigenous cultures, languages, and traditions, you will develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity and gain valuable intercultural communication skills.





“quote from student goes here.”

Name  
degree, year



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### **Rooted in Louisiana**

Our program faculty work closely with American Indian nations with current or historical landbases in Louisiana and adapt course offerings and research to tribal needs. Throughout the year, AIIS and the other ethnic studies programs host guest speakers and student events to help build community.

### **The Big Picture**

As an American Indian and Indigenous Studies student, you will start with two courses that help frame your remaining studies. Each can be taken as an anthropology or sociology track (see your advisor to determine which is best for you).

#### *ANTH/SOC 1015, Survey of Race in the U.S.*

This course introduces how beliefs about race developed in the U.S., explaining why race does not exist in a biological sense as an explanation of human variation, but race beliefs and experiences of race remain so dominant in society. You will learn how race and racism have been experienced by different groups over time in the U.S. and understand the processes that maintain these beliefs.

#### *ANTH/SOC 2015, Standing Up for Diversity and Equity*

In this course, you will learn about U.S. civil rights and anti-discrimination laws and how these protect you, and you will also reflect on and learn about effective ways to stand up for equity and diversity in different contexts.

### **Interdisciplinary Pathways**

In addition to the two required courses, students will choose five classes (fifteen hours) from courses across NSU. Students may also complete independent research or an internship as part of this program.

- ✓ North American Indians
- ✓ American Indians of the Southeastern United States
- ✓ North American Prehistory
- ✓ Archaeology of the Southeastern United States
- ✓ Survey of American Indian Languages
- ✓ American Indians and the Law
- ✓ Museum and Historic Site Development
- ✓ Other Courses Approved by the Program Coordinator

## **School of Social Sciences & Applied Programs**

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