Native American Studies

Nature of Program

Native American Studies (NAS) is an interdisciplinary academic program in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. The NAS minor curriculum is designed to help students develop a greater respect for and understanding of diverse Native cultures by providing historical context and contemporary perspectives.

Students who complete the NAS minor enhance their ability to think in nontraditional, non-Western ways and interact more effectively with diverse populations. NAS students learn about some of the many cultures, languages, histories, and traditions of indigenous Americans, as well as the challenges and successes of Native nations in the 21st century. Experiential and hands-on learning, travel and immersion-style courses, as well as lectures and dialogue with highly-regarded Native American leaders, authors, scholars, activists, and artists, are at the heart of the NAS curriculum.

Admission Requirements

Any student admitted to an undergraduate degree program at WVU may complete a minor in Native American Studies. An “area of emphasis” in NAS is available to Regents Bachelor of Arts majors. Students who choose the NAS minor come from a variety of academic majors as far-ranging as business, engineering, art, English, history, anthropology, and health sciences, to name a few. Our graduates find practical ways to apply their NAS education, working in fields such as cultural resource management, education, law, health care, and government.

FACULTY

COORDINATOR

• Bonnie M. Brown - M.A. (University of Texas at Austin)

TEACHING INSTRUCTOR

• Bonnie M. Brown - M.A. (University of Texas at Austin)
  Interests: Contemporary Native American Issues; Native Women in Leadership; Tribal Sovereignty

LECTURERS

• Robert Pirner
  Interests: Lakota Studies; Indian Country Economic Development; Warrior Culture Then and Now; Native Music and Dance

• Angela Grabuloff - Ed.D. (West Virginia University)
  Interests: Native Youth Education; Indigenous Communities; Yup'ik Culture and History, Subsistence Living

• Travis L. Henline - M.A. (West Virginia University)
  Interests: Eastern Woodland Indians; Cherokee History and Culture; American Indian Interpretation/Public History

• John Joseph “Joe” Candillo (Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona) - A.B.D. (University at Buffalo)
  Interests: American Indian Material Culture and Practices; Wilderness Immersion and Traditional Native American Ecology

• Ellesa Clay High (Mekoce Shawnee) - Ph.D. (Ohio University)
  WVU Assoc. Professor of English. Interests: Literature of Native America; Native American Film; Culture and Tradition

• Karen Manzo - Ph.D. ABD (West Virginia University)
  Interests: American Indian Health; Native Youth Suicide Prevention; Cultural Resilience; Community-Based Participatory Research

• Carol Markstrom - Ph.D. (Utah State University)
  WVU Professor of Child Development and Family Studies, Dept. of Technology, Learning and Culture, College of Education and Human Services.
  Interests: Native American Children and Families; Apache Culture and History; American Indian Education

• SilverMoon - Ph.D. (Duke University)
  Interests: Indigenous Intellectuals; Native American Images-“New World” Film; Latin American History; Native American Studies; Ethnohistory; Mesoamerican Studies; Pre-Conquest America; Colonial Latin America; Modern Latin America; Early Modern Transatlantic Studies; World History and Globalization

• Thomas Keopuhiwa - Ed.D. (West Virginai University)
  Interests: Native Hawaiian Culture and History; Immersion Learning in Hawaii

• Darla Spencer - M.A. (Marshall University)
  (Registered Professional Archaeologist) Interests: Moundbuilder Cultures; Native American Cultural Preservation
NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR
MINOR CODE -U038

Students wishing to earn a Native American Studies minor must complete requirements as listed below, with a grade of C or better in each course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAS 200</td>
<td>Intro:Native American Studies (GEC 4 or 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 156</td>
<td>Literature Native America (GEC 5 or 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 264</td>
<td>American Indian History (GEC 3 or 7)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Upper-Division Electives:</th>
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<tr>
<td>NAS 491</td>
<td>Professional Field Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAS 495</td>
<td>Independent Study (no more than 3 credits may count toward the minor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAS 493 Special Topics</td>
<td>Topics in Native American Lit</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 356</td>
<td>Governments of Latin America</td>
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<td>POLS 355</td>
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Other courses approved by the NAS coordinator.

Total Hours 18

Remarks: Of the upper-division courses listed, ENGL 356, NAS 491, NAS 493, and NAS 495 are wholly focused on Native Americans. NAS special topics courses include titles such as: Cherokee History and Culture, Native American Child & Family Studies, Eastern Woodland Indians, Lakota Studies, Contemporary Native American Issues, Research with Indigenous Peoples, American Indian Health, Native American Women in Leadership, Native American Filmmakers, Culture, Tradition, and the Sacred, Native Hawaiian Culture and History, Introduction to Mound-builder Cultures, Yup'ik Culture and History, Native American Material Culture and Practices, Apache Culture and History, Native Voices: Sites and Stories, PowWow Studies, Indigenous Intellectuals, and others.

Note: Students should consult with the NAS coordinator to learn about other courses of interest and opportunities for additional academic exploration of Native American topics, such as ARHS 307, COMM 316, ENGL 337, ENGL 355, ENGL 387, HIST 350, HIST 441, HIST 442, POLS 355, SOCA 358, SOCA 405, etc.

COURSES

NAS 200. Intro:Native American Studies. 3 Hours.
Overview of the diverse social and cultural institutions of indigenous tribal societies in North America. Historical materials provide the background for understanding the range of issues affecting contemporary tribal groups.

NAS 293A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NAS 491. Professional Field Experience. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Supervised interdisciplinary experiences focused on Native Americans. May be tribally based or related to agencies and projects serving Native Americans. This course is not open to freshman.

NAS 492A-Z. Directed Study. 1-3 Hours.
Directed study, reading and/or research.

NAS 493A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NAS 494A-Z. Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Presentation and discussion of topics of mutual concern to students and faculty.

NAS 495. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

NAS 499A-Z. Global Service Learning. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Theory and practice of global service-learning. The main objective will be to pair the experiential aspects of meaningful and sustained service in the host community with work from the student’s anchor course by offering a methodological framework for cultural immersion and community service as well as adding to the content of the anchor course.