

# NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

## **Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Native American Studies**

### **Minor in Indigenous Peoples, Natural Resource Use & the Environment**

### **Minor in Native American Studies**

### **Minor in Tribal Leadership**

### **Department Chair**

Cutchá Risling Baldy, Ph.D.

### **Department of Native American Studies**

Behavioral & Social Sciences 206

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[humboldt.edu/nasp](http://humboldt.edu/nasp)

### **The Program**

The Department of Native American Studies is an independent academic department, where students are prepared for careers and advanced study in which collaboration with native communities plays a vital role. Students are provided with quality instruction utilizing interdisciplinary, research and public service curriculum that foregrounds Native American epistemologies and knowledges. Our students gain skills in and are challenged to think creatively, logically, and critically with regard to literature, art, history, law, environment and politics. This prepares them to go out into the world with a knowledge of Native American issues that will make them assets to the communities in which they work and live.

Native American Studies maintains the core position that cultural, spiritual and educational growth are inseparable. With that in mind, we are committed to guiding students toward becoming productive and socially responsible individuals. To achieve this the program curriculum fosters diversity, social justice and cultural democracy with a commitment to scholarly rigor, theoretical clarity, and critical/creative pedagogy, all while recognizing our responsibility to indigenous communities.

Students graduating with a major in Native American Studies will have demonstrated:

- Mastery of the ability to engage in critical dialogue utilizing various aspects of Native American Studies through oral presentations that convey diverse and complex viewpoints.
- Mastery of the ability to write clearly and effectively about the histories, politics, and social issues confronting Indigenous people in the context of colonization, imperialism,

globalization, decolonization, and Indigenous autonomy.

- Mastery of the ability to research issues affecting life in Indian Country by determining the extent of information needed, accessing the various sources, and using the information effectively, and do so in a manner that is culturally responsible, ethical and legal.

- Mastery of the ability to identify and navigate the system of state, federal and tribal agencies and policies to further the objectives of tribal governments and tribal sovereignty.

- Mastery of the ability to identify, analyze and respond to environmental issues affecting Indigenous communities by identifying responsible policies that are free from discrimination, and take into account the diverse Indigenous cultural perspectives of natural resource management.

- Mastery of the ability to think in a clear, reasoned and reflective manner that is informed by evidence about the unique federal-tribal relationship, Indigenous ways of governing and the principles of Native American justice.

- Ability to present themselves professionally and appropriately in an academic or career setting.

Unique among the CSU campuses in its close proximity to eleven federally recognized tribes and the largest population of Native Americans in the state of California, HSU provides a rich environment for studying federal Indian law, tribal government and justice systems, natural resource management, linguistics and culture. Faculty in the Department of Native American Studies are experts in the areas of arts, humanities, linguistics, social sciences, natural resources and federal Indian law.

The major in Native American Studies, particularly when combined with a minor in a specific field, is good preparation for graduate work in several social sciences, as well as for professional training in law, business, or social work. It also provides an excellent background for prospective teachers.

Other career opportunities: student services counselor, mental health worker, cultural resources specialist, tribal museum curator, Indian language teacher, and tribal administrator.

### **Preparation**

High school students should take writing, literature and social science courses (history, psychology, sociology).

Community college students should take introductory courses in Native American Studies and courses that meet lower division general education requirements.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR**

*For a description of degree requirements to be fulfilled in addition to those listed below for the major, please see "The Bachelor's Degree" section of the catalog, pp. 66-81.*

#### **Core Courses** (31 units)

##### **Lower Division** (6 units)

NAS 104	(3)	Introduction to Native American Studies
NAS 200	(3)	Indigenous Peoples in US History

##### **Upper Division** (25 units)

NAS 301	(3)	Native American Literature
NAS 306	(3)	Indigenous Peoples of the Americas
NAS 325	(3)	Native Tribes of California
NAS 331	(3)	Indigenous Natural Resource Management Practices
NAS 340	(3)	Language & Communication in Native American Communities
NAS 362	(3)	Tribal Governance & Leadership
NAS 364	(4)	Federal Indian Law I
NAS 492	(3)	Native American Studies Capstone Experience

After taking the required core courses, all students will select an additional 6 to 7 units of coursework. Students may pursue a "General" NAS degree and choose courses from any of the 4 elective areas, or choose an emphasis in which to specialize (Law & Government, Environment & Natural Resources, Language & Literature, Society & Culture). If a student chooses an optional emphasis, the student must take two courses in that area.

#### **Electives** (6-7 units)

A student may choose an optional emphasis from the following electives by taking two of the courses listed under a category below.

### Law & Government

- NAS 365 (4) Federal Indian Law II
- NAS 468 (3) Tribal Justice Systems

### Environment & Natural Resources

- NAS 332 (3) Environmental Justice
- NAS 366 (4) Tribal Water Rights

### Language & Literature

- NAS 302 (3) Oral Literature & Oral Tradition
- NAS 345 (3) Native Languages of North America

### Society & Culture

- NAS 307 (3) Nature & Issues of Genocide
- NAS 320 (3) Native American Psychology
- NAS 374 (3) Native American Health

### Supplement/Substitute in Major If Offered

Upper division elective courses are recommended for those who would like to pursue interests in subjects or to engage in more in-depth study of an area not required as part of the NAS curriculum. Before enrolling in these elective courses, students will consult with their major advisor. These courses will be offered on an infrequent schedule.

- NAS 361 (3) Tribal Sovereignty, Tribal Citizens
- NAS 392 (3) Indigenous Identities in Film
- NAS 480 (1-4) Special Topics [Topics vary and may be repeated.]

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINORS

The three NAS minors require a total of 15-17 units each, as follows:

### Minor in Native American Studies

Students take a total of 9 units of required core courses plus 6-8 units (two courses) from one of two emphasis categories below,

#### Core Courses (9 units)

- NAS 104 (3) Introduction to Native American Studies
- NAS 200 (3) Indigenous Peoples in US History
- NAS 306 (3) Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

#### Emphasis Categories (6-8 units)

In addition to the core, students select two upper-division courses from one of the following emphasis categories:

#### Culture & Community Emphasis

- NAS 301 (3) Native American Literature
- NAS 325 (3) Native Tribes of California
- NAS 374 (3) Native American Health

#### Law & Policy Emphasis

- NAS 331 (3) Indigenous Natural Resource Management Practices
- NAS 364 (4) Federal Indian Law I
- NAS 366 (4) Tribal Water Rights

### Minor in Tribal Leadership

#### Lower Division (6 units)

- NAS 104 (3) Introduction to Native American Studies
- NAS 200 (3) Indigenous Peoples in US History

#### Upper Division (10 units)

- NAS 362 (3) Tribal Governance & Leadership
- NAS 468 (3) Tribal Justice Systems
- NAS 364 (4) Federal Indian Law I, **or**
- NAS 365 (4) Federal Indian Law II

### Minor in Indigenous Peoples, Natural Resource Use & the Environment

#### Lower Division (3 units)

- NAS 104 (3) Introduction to Native American Studies

#### Upper Division (14 units)

- NAS 331 (3) Indigenous Natural Resource Management Practices
- NAS 332 (3) Environmental Justice
- NAS 364 (4) Federal Indian Law I, **or**
- NAS 365 (4) Federal Indian Law II
- NAS 366 (4) Tribal Water Rights

