

Native American Community Services- Associate of Science

NAS course content is the comprehensive study of Native nations, tribal citizens and their cultural relationship with their ancestral homelands, or lack thereof due to multiple societal impacts including assimilation, colonization, and termination.

Skills and Competencies

NAS offers in-depth content on the historical and modern-day issues affecting Native nations today including subjects tied to the legal-political relationship between Native nations and the U.S. federal government. NAS majors will engage in useful skills and meaningful topics that develop and hone several professional traits.

- Analysis and Critical Thinking
- Community Engagement and Reciprocity
- Economic, Environmental, Racial, and Social Justice
- Grant-writing and Program Planning
- Identity Awareness and Cultural Humility
- Tribal Nation Capacity Building and Self-Determination
- Verbal and Written Communication Skills

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

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| General Education | 32 |
| EN111 (4cr.) | |
| EN211 (4cr.) | |
| PSY100 (4cr.) | |
| SO101 (4cr.) | |
| Required Native American Studies Courses | 24 |
| NAS 101 Anishinaabe Language, Culture and Community (4cr.) | |
| NAS 204 Native American Experience (4cr.) | |
| NAS 212 Michigan and Wisconsin Tribal Relations (4cr.) | |
| NAS 310 Tribal Law and Government (4cr.) | |
| NAS 315 History of Indian Boarding School Education (4cr.) | |
| NAS 320 American Indians: Identity and Media Images (4cr.) | |
| Required Social Work Courses | 20 |
| SW100 Exploring Social Work (4cr.) | |
| SO208 Methods of Social Work I (4cr.) | |
| SW230 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (4cr.) | |
| SW272 Basic Crisis Intervention Intervention Skills (4cr.) | |
| SW341 Social Welfare Policy (4cr.) | |

Find detailed course descriptions at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

Dive into your education and classes and begin the resume-building process early.

The Center for Native American Studies will assist you with tribal community engagement opportunities.

The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning.

Additional Considerations

Native American Studies offers these distinct academic programs: the Native American Studies Minor [24 credits], the Native American Community Services Minor [24 credits], and an undergraduate certification in American Indian Education (AIE) [12 credits]. The AIE certification is the only nationally recognized academic program endorsed by the Tribal Education Departments National Assembly.

NAS courses are designed for all NMU students. Several courses meet general education and graduation requirements. Students majoring in Criminal Justice, Education, Environmental Studies and Sustainability, History, Political Science, and Social Work will find NAS courses useful.

A majority of NAS core courses and some NAS electives are available online. The ZOOM online video platform is helpful for those students who prefer face-to-face instruction.

Front Cover Photo: Students from NAS 310 Tribal Law and Government class visit the Keeweenaw Bay Indian Community's Department of Natural Resources.

Job Outlook

Jobs in need of the skills and competencies that are acquired are varied both in terms of specialty and salary. Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and individual work experience. Examples of potential careers are listed on this brochure.

Potential Careers

NMU's Native American Studies program will prepare you for employment in the following careers:

- Anishinaabe Language Instructor
(Specific Courses required)
- Community Organizer
- Cross-Cultural Communications Specialist
- Diversity Coordinator
- Am. Indian Family Services Specialist
- Governmental Agencies
- Non-profit Organizations
- Tribal Conservation Officer
- Tribal Department of Natural Resources
- Tribal Education Director
- Tribal Elder Coordinator
- Tribal Youth Coordinator
- Youth-Focused Organizations

There are 567 federally-recognized tribal nations in the United States. Each tribe has their own infrastructure and seek employees who are familiar with the history that has affected and is still influencing Native America today.

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advise ment Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

Center for Native American Studies
112 Whitman
906-227-1397
www.nmu.edu/cnas

Multicultural Education and Resource Center (MERC)
3001 C.B. Hedgcock
(906)227-1554
mer@nmu.edu

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

NMU Student Organizations associated with NAS Major
Native American Language and Culture Club
Native American Student Association

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

National/ Regional Organizations- Career Information:
www.bia.gov -Bureau of Indian Affairs
www.glifwc.org -Great Lakes Inter-tribal Council Inc.
www.glifwc.org -Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
www.catchingthedream.org -Native American Leadership in Education
www.ncai.org -National Congress of American Indians



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UNIVERSITY**

The Academic & Career Advise ment Center
2022



What to do with
a major in...

Native American Studies

