

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS

College of Letters & Science

The Major Program

Native American Studies provides a multi-disciplinary introduction to the indigenous cultures of North, Central, and South America. It challenges students to consider issues of cultural diversity, sovereignty, and indigenous knowledge systems in preparation for living in a world of constantly increasing social and cultural complexity.

The Program

Students electing a major in Native American Studies may complete Plan I, Plan II, or Plan III. Plan I enables students to concentrate chiefly upon the Native experience in North America (north of Mexico). Plan II encourages interested students to focus upon Meso-America with some course work integrating Meso-America with North America and South America. Plan III focuses upon South America with some course work integrating that region with areas to the north. See Undergraduate Major Requirements (<https://nas.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate-major-requirements/>).

Major Advisor & Advising

All new and prospective Native American Studies majors are encouraged to see the Student Affairs Officer individually, once per year, at minimum. See Native American Studies Advising (<https://nas.ucdavis.edu/contact-information/>).

Career Alternatives

Native American Studies is excellent preparation for a scholarly career or professional career such as teaching, law, human services, health, tribal administration, social work, and inter-ethnic relations. Graduate schools and agencies in these and related areas are looking for students with broad interdisciplinary preparation and who possess knowledge and sensitivity relating to ethnic issues and cultural diversity.

Study Off Campus

Majors have the option of spending one to three quarters elsewhere in the Americas or on or near a reservation as part of the fulfillment of the Area of Specialization. Each student's plan must be approved by the student's advisor and by the chairperson and may fulfill from 12 to 20 of the 28 units required for the emphasis. The courses or field internship taken elsewhere must be focused upon indigenous peoples or indigenous languages and the institution of study shall be located in an area with substantial indigenous population. Students must have upper division standing and, for Plan I, course 107 or the equivalent should have been completed; for Plan II, courses 107 and 133 should have been completed; and for Plan III, courses 107 and 120 should have been completed prior to departure. Several options may be used for receiving academic credit, including course 195. The department strongly encourages students to participate in the UC Education Abroad Program or Short-Term Programs Abroad.

Graduate Study

The Department offers a program of study leading to M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Native American Studies, as well as a designated emphasis in Native American Studies for graduate students in approved programs.

Further information regarding graduate study may be obtained at the Department office and at Graduate Studies.

Graduates Advisor

Graduate Advisors (<https://nas.ucdavis.edu/graduate-advisor/>)

Code	Title	Units
Preparatory Subject Matter		
<i>Native American Studies</i>		
NAS 001	Introduction to Native American Studies	4
NAS 010	Native American Experience	4
or NAS 012	Native American/Indigenous Film	
Choose one or two:		4-8
NAS 005	Introduction to Native American Literature	
NAS 012	Native American/Indigenous Film	
NAS 032	Native American Music & Dance	
NAS 033	Introduction to Native American Art	
NAS 034	Native American Art Studio	
Choose one or two:		3-8
AAS 012	Introduction to African Studies	
AAS 052	African Traditional Religion	
ANT 002	Cultural Anthropology	
ANT 020	Comparative Cultures	
ANT 024	Ancient Crops & People	
ASA 001	Historical Experience of Asian Americans	
ASA 002	Contemporary Issues of Asian Americans	
ASA 004	Asian American Cultural Studies	
CHI 010	Introduction to Chicana/o Studies	
CHI 021	Chicana/o & Latina/o Health Care Issues	
CHI 023	Qualitative Research Methods	
COM 025	Ethnic Minority Writers in World Literature	
CRD 002	Ethnicity & American Communities	
ESP 010	Current Issues in the Environment	
HIS 007A	History of Latin America to 1700	
HIS 007B	History of Latin America, 1700-1900	
HIS 007C	History of Latin America 1900-present	
HIS 017A	History of the United States	
LIN 001	Introduction to Linguistics	
Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal		15-24
Depth Subject Matter		
<i>Native American Studies</i>		
NAS 157	Native American Religion & Philosophy	4
Choose one:		4
NAS 130A	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 130B	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 130C	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 180	Native American Women	4
or NAS 135	Gender Construction in Native Societies	
Choose three:		12
NAS 101	Contemporary Native American Art	
NAS 107	Learning Native American Languages	

NAS 108	Indigenous Languages of California
NAS 115	Native Americans in the Contemporary World
NAS 119	Introduction to Federal Indian Law
NAS 122	Native American Community Development
NAS 125	Performance & Culture Among Native Americans
NAS 130A	Native American Ethno-Historical Development
NAS 130B	Native American Ethno-Historical Development
NAS 130C	Native American Ethno-Historical Development
NAS 133A	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America to 1500
NAS 133B	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America 1500 to 2000
NAS 135	Gender Construction in Native Societies
NAS 146	Orientation to Research in Native American Studies
NAS 161	California Indian Environmental Policy I
NAS 162	California Indian Environmental Policy II
NAS 180	Native American Women
NAS 181A	Native American Literature
NAS 181B	Native American Literature
NAS 181C	Contemporary Native American Poetry
NAS 185	Native American Literature in Performance
NAS 188	Special Topics in Native American Literary Studies
NAS 191	Topics in Native American Studies

Note: If a course is counted for either Plans I, II, or III (below), it cannot also be counted as part of the 24 units of Depth Subject Matter (above).

Depth Subject Matter Subtotal	24
Areas of Specialization	
Complete one plan:	20-21
Plan I—North American Emphasis (p. 2)	
Plan II—Mexico-Central America Emphasis (p. 3)	
Plan III—South American Emphasis (p. 3)	
Areas of Specialization Subtotal	20-21
Total Units	59-69

Plan I—North American Emphasis

Code	Title	Units
Native American Studies		
NAS 107 or NAS 108	Learning Native American Languages Indigenous Languages of California	4
Choose two:		8
NAS 101	Contemporary Native American Art	
NAS 115	Native Americans in the Contemporary World	
NAS 119	Introduction to Federal Indian Law	
NAS 122	Native American Community Development	

NAS 125	Performance & Culture Among Native Americans	
NAS 130A	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 130B	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 130C	Native American Ethno-Historical Development	
NAS 135	Gender Construction in Native Societies	
NAS 146	Orientation to Research in Native American Studies	
NAS 161	California Indian Environmental Policy I	
NAS 162	California Indian Environmental Policy II	
NAS 181A	Native American Literature	
NAS 181B	Native American Literature	
NAS 181C	Contemporary Native American Poetry	
NAS 185	Native American Literature in Performance	
NAS 188	Special Topics in Native American Literary Studies	
NAS 191	Topics in Native American Studies	
Choose one:		4
AMS 100	Methods in American Studies	
ANT 103	Indigenous Peoples & Natural Resource Conservation	
ANT 136	Ethnographic Film	
ANT 172	New World Prehistory: The First Arrivals	
ANT 175	Andean Prehistory: Archaeology of the Incas & Their Ancestors	
ANT 176	Prehistory of California & the Great Basin	
AAS 100	Survey of Ethnicity in the US	
AAS 107B	African Descent Communities & Culture in North America	
AAS 145B	Black Intellectuals	
AAS 152	Major Voices in Black World Literature	
AAS 153/COM 154	African Literature	
AAS 163	African Religions in the Americas	
AAS 172	Diaspora & New Black Identities	
AAS 176	The Politics of Resources	
AAS 181	Hip Hop in Urban America	
ASA 102	Theoretical Perspective in Asian American Studies	
ASA 112	Asian American Women	
ASA 115	Multiracial Asian Pacific American Issues	
ASA 121	Asian American Performance	
CHI 100	Chicana/o Theoretical Perspective	
CHI 110	Sociology of the Chicana/o Experience	
SOC 128	Interracial Interpersonal Dynamics	
WMS 160	Women, "Race" & Sexuality in Postcolonial Cinema	
WMS 162	Feminist Film Theory & Criticism	
WMS 170	Queer Studies	
WMS 180	Women of Color Writing in the United States	
WMS 182	Globalization, Gender & Culture	

One other upper division Native American Studies course, selected in consultation with advisor.	4
Total Units	20

Plan II—Mexico-Central America Emphasis

Code	Title	Units
Native American Studies		
NAS 107	Learning Native American Languages	4
NAS 133	Ethnohistory of Native People of Mexico & Central America	4
or NAS 133B	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America 1500 to 2000	
Choose two:		8-9
AMS 100	Methods in American Studies	
HIS 110A	Colonialism & the Making of the Modern World	
HIS 160	Spain & America in the 16th Century	
HIS 165	Latin American Social Revolutions	
HIS 166A	History of Mexico to 1848	
HIS 166B	History of Mexico since 1848	
AAS 107A	African Descent Communities & Culture in the Caribbean & Latin America	
AAS 180	Race & Ethnicity in Latin America	
ANT 144	Contemporary Societies & Cultures of Latin America	
CHI 111	Chicanas/Mexicanas in Contemporary Society	
CHI 112	Globalization, Transnational Migration, & Chicana/o & Latina/o Communities	
CHI 125S	Latino Families in the Age of Globalization: Migration & Transculturation	
CHI 130	United States-Mexican Border Relations	
CHI 135S	Transnational Latina/o Political Economy	
CHI 147S	Indigenous Healing & Biodiversity in Latin America	
NAS 122	Native American Community Development	
NAS 133A	Ethnohistory of Native Peoples of Mexico & Central America to 1500	
NAS 184	Contemporary Indigenous Literature of Mexico (Study Abroad)	
NAS 185	Native American Literature in Performance	
POL 143B	Mexican Politics	
SPA 177	California & Latin America	
Choose one:		4
AHI 151	Arts of the Ancient New World	
NAS 181B	Native American Literature	
NAS 181C	Contemporary Native American Poetry	
If student's work is specifically focused upon a Meso-American language or topic, choose:		
NAS 188	Special Topics in Native American Literary Studies	

NAS 191	Topics in Native American Studies	
Total Units		20-21

Plan III—South American Emphasis

Code	Title	Units
Native American Studies		
Choose two:		8
NAS 107	Learning Native American Languages	
NAS 110A	Quechua Language & Society: Beginning Level 1	
NAS 110B	Quechua Language & Society: Beginning Level 2	
NAS 110C	Quechua Language & Society: Intermediate Level 1	
NAS 110D	Quechua Language & Society: Intermediate Level 2	
NAS 120	Ethnopolitics of South American Indians (Study Abroad)	
Choose two:		8
AAS 107A	African Descent Communities & Culture in the Caribbean & Latin America	
AAS/DRA 155A	African-American Dance & Culture in the United States, Brazil & the Caribbean	
AAS 163	African Religions in the Americas	
AAS 180	Race & Ethnicity in Latin America	
ANT 103	Indigenous Peoples & Natural Resource Conservation	
ANT 144	Contemporary Societies & Cultures of Latin America	
ANT 175	Andean Prehistory: Archaeology of the Incas & Their Ancestors	
HIS 162	History of the Andean Region	
HIS 165	Latin American Social Revolutions	
POL 143A	Latin American Politics	
SOC/IRE 104	The Political Economy of International Migration	
SPA 170	Introduction to Latin American Culture	
SPA 170S	Introduction to Latin American Culture	
SPA 171/MUS 127	Music from Latin America	
SPA 171S/MUS 127S	Music from Latin America (Summer Abroad.)	
Choose one:		4
HIS 163B	History of Brazil	
HIS 164	History of Chile	
HIS 167	Modern Latin American Cultural & Intellectual History	
POL 143A	Latin American Politics	
Total Units		20