

American Indian Studies

In the College of Arts and Letters

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Faculty

Chair: Field
 Professors: Kilpatrick, Parker
 Associate Professor: Field
 Assistant Professor: Kamper
 Adjunct: Cayleff, Colston, Connolly, Cooper, Cox, Darby, Gamble, Garrett, Greenfeld, Ortiz, Reinholz, Robinson-Zanartu

Offered by the Department

Major in American Indian studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
 Minor in American Indian studies.

The Major

A major in American Indian studies provides students with a liberal arts education focused on cultural diversity. The American Indian studies program takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Native American peoples. Using literature, art, history, and politics as touchstones, students come to understand the individual, as well as tribal character of Indian people. Special emphasis is given to the tribes of Southern California. Courses also draw comparisons between American Indian life and the life of other members of American society. Career opportunities for graduates include jobs in business, education, government, politics, social sciences, and health and human services. Students may also find positions in programs and institutions located on local Indian reservations. Federal agencies also seek people with knowledge about and experience with American Indian people and their culture. Agencies include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Services, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forestry Services.

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

American Indian Studies Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 22121)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 48 units in American Indian studies can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major. American Indian Studies 110; 140 or 141; 200 or 220 or 240. (9 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 27 upper division units, 24 of which must be taken in American Indian studies to include American Indian Studies 420, 485, 498, and 18 units selected from American Indian Studies

300, 320, 400, 420, 430, 435, 440, 451, 460, 470, 480, 485, 498, 499; Anthropology 445, 446, 457. American Indian content courses from other departments may be applied to the major with written consent of the undergraduate adviser.

The Minor

A minor in American Indian studies provides students with a liberal education which focuses on cultural diversity. Individuals will attain competency in a broad understanding of the human condition which will relate closely to the areas of public relations, cultural pluralism, and race relations. Students pursuing careers in mass media, politics, journalism, and education will find that a minor in American Indian studies opens a new spectrum of human understanding and critical analysis of professional life.

The American Indian studies program focuses on individual elements that comprise the Native American cultures. Using literature, art, history and politics as touchstones, students come to understand the individual as well as tribal character of the Indian peoples. The academic area also draws comparisons between American Indian life and the life of other members of American society.

Career opportunities for graduates include jobs in business, education, government, politics, social sciences, and health and human services. Students have also found positions in programs for Indian tribes and reservations. Federal agencies also seek people with knowledge about and experience with American Indian people and their culture. Agencies include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Services, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forestry Services.

American Indian Studies Minor

The minor in American Indian studies consists of a minimum of 18 units, 12 of which must be upper division courses selected from American Indian studies or other appropriate departments (e.g., anthropology, linguistics, political science, Latin American studies) in consultation with the departmental adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (AMIND)

Refer to Curricula and Courses and University Policies sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

AMIND 110. American Indian Heritage (3) [GE] (Selected sections offered as distance education)

Major American Indian themes, beliefs, and practices and their impact on Western civilization through institutions, art, literature, philosophy, and religion.

AMIND 140. U.S. History from an American Indian Perspective to 1870 (3) [AI]

U.S. history from an indigenous perspective pre-Columbian contact to 1870. Examines Native American societies with attention to white intrusion, U.S. constitution and legislation to remove Indians, control of their land and impact upon indigenous culture and society. Satisfies the American Institutions requirement in American history and United States Constitution.

AMIND 141. U.S. History from an American Indian Perspective Since 1870 (3) [AI]

U.S. history from an indigenous perspective from 1870 to the present. Examines Native American societies, political systems, and reservations. Attention given to historical, contemporary, political, socioeconomic issues, the U.S. and California constitutions and their impact on Native Americans. Satisfies the American Institutions requirement in American history and California government.

AMIND 200. American Indian Environmental Management (3)

Native American sciences and contemporary tribal environmental management, including care and restoration of California and other North American landscapes. Environmental issues surrounding American Indian lands, such as water supply and quantity, land use planning, environmental justice, and environmental economics.

AMIND 220. Contemporary California Indian Issues (3)

Contemporary reservation, rural, and urban Indian communities in California. California Indian status and issues examined through history, literature, economic development, law, political systems, religious practices, ecology, language use, and identity formation.

AMIND 240. Kumeyaay History (3)

History of Kumeyaay and Diegueno tribes living in Southern California and Baja, prior to contact with Europeans to late twentieth century. Traditional culture including socio-political organization. Relations with and reactions to Spanish, Mexican, and American cultures.

AMIND 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

AMIND 300. American Indian Oral Literature (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.C., Humanities.

Pre-twentieth century American Indian oral and symbolic traditions including creation and origin legends, coyote stories, ceremonial songs, oratory, and memoirs.

AMIND 320. American Indians in Contemporary Society (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Sociological understanding of the American Indian groups in contemporary society with emphasis on the relationship to dominant society and why the focus has been on Indians as social problems.

AMIND 370. Tribal Gaming: Cultural and Political Context (3) (Same course as Hospitality and Tourism Management 370)

Prerequisite: American Indian Studies 110 or Hospitality and Tourism Management 201.

Social and political context of American Indian tribal gaming, political relationships between federal and tribal governments, contemporary examples of tribal gaming, sociocultural and economic forces leading to gaming as strategy for economic development, and responses by non-Indian communities to tribal gaming.

AMIND 400. The American Indian Political Experience (3)

Social and political response to dominant group policies by the American Indian as compared to other minority groups.

AMIND 420. Indian Peoples of California (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Indian peoples of California. Their histories and cultures from oral traditions to contemporary issues. Focus on selected Indian tribes and communities.

AMIND 430. American Indian Poetry and Fiction (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.C., Humanities.

Contemporary American Indian poetry and fiction explored in works of Welch, Ortiz, Momaday, Silko, Deloria, Allen, Erdrich, and others.

AMIND 435. Indians Through Film and Television (3) [GE]

Ethnographic film-making. Impact of movies and television on popular concepts of Indians. Films viewed in class.

AMIND 440. American Indian History (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.C., Humanities.

Historical analysis of Indian-White contact. Emphasis on the impact of historical events upon the various cultures.

AMIND 451. American Indian Identity (3) [GE] (Same course as Anthropology 451)

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Multidisciplinary perspectives on American Indian identity today. Topics include perspectives from political, ethnic, cultural and legal standpoints, both within and outside of indigenous communities, as well as diachronic variation in perspectives. (Formerly numbered American Indian Studies 450.)

AMIND 460. American Indian Languages (3) [GE] (Same course as Linguistics 460)

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Structures of American Indian languages. Language families of North America, history, and present circumstances. Interdependence of language and culture, differences in ways of speaking. Issues of language endangerment, language death, language maintenance, and language revitalization.

AMIND 470. American Indian Religion (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.C., Humanities.

Spirits, prophecies, and renewals of the Indian way compared through symbols and ceremony. Religions surveyed as they have been influenced by foreign elements and philosophies. Influences on values and tribalism as reflected through symbols and other measures.

AMIND 480. Issues in American Indian Education (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: American Indian Studies 110 and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Cross-cultural differences in learning styles, emphasis on Native American styles. Cross-cultural differences in child socialization related to readiness for school. Literacy-related practices in oral communities. Bilingual education in Native American communities. Local educational empowerment.

AMIND 485. Federal Indian Law (3)

Prerequisites: American Indian Studies 110 or 320 or 440.

Legal relationship between the United States and Indian people and Indian tribes as field of Indian law was developed and has changed over the years until the present.

AMIND 496. Topics in American Indian Studies (1-3)

An undergraduate seminar. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

AMIND 499. Special Study (1-4)

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.