



The NMU Center for Native American Studies offers a holistic curriculum rooted in Native American themes that – 1) challenges students to think critically and communicate effectively about Indigenous issues with emphasis on Great Lakes Indigenous perspectives; 2) stimulates further respectful inquiry about Indigenous people; and 3) provides active learning and service learning opportunities that strengthen student engagement, interaction, and reciprocity with Indigenous communities.

The NMU Center for Native American Studies offers a rigorous 42-credit academic major, two distinct academic minors, a Native American Community Services associate degree, a 12-credit undergraduate certification in American Indian Education endorsed by TEDNA (the *first and only* program to be awarded such an endorsement), and core courses in the Masters of Educational Administration: American Indian Education Administration and Supervision (the core courses are *also* TEDNA endorsed).

NAS 101 Anishinaabe Language, Culture and Community I (4)

An introduction to Anishinaabemowin language including grammar, vocabulary, idioms and syllabics. Students will learn to read, write and speak basic Anishinaabemowin. This course also promotes the preservation of Anishinaabe culture by examining various facets of Anishinaabe everyday life and contemporary issues.

NAS 102 Anishinaabe Language, Culture and Community II (4)

Prerequisite: NAS 101 or instructor approval.

An in-depth study of Anishinaabemowin language. This course is a continuation of materials introduced in **NAS 101**. Students will focus on higher-level use of the language and will apply it in situations related to contemporary Anishinaabe cultural issues and community structures.

NAS 204 Native American Experience (4)

The development of Native American history, culture, attitudes and issues from the prehistoric era to the contemporary scene, focusing on Native culture in the Great Lakes region. Shared Native world view, contact experience and Native peoples' contributions to world culture are an important part of the course. *Applies toward the world cultures graduation requirement.*

Photo right: Grace Chaillier



NAS 207 Seasonal Exploration Anishinaabe Language (4)

The skills necessary for speaking Anishinaabe through experiential opportunities, cultural outdoor activities as well as classroom activity and group work during fall, winter or spring experiences that emphasize Indigenous traditional knowledge.

Note: *May be repeated per season 207a – fall, 207b – winter, 207c –spring.*

NAS 212 Michigan/Wisconsin Tribal Relations (4)

An examination of the twenty-three federally recognized tribes of Michigan and Wisconsin and how treaties with the federal government shaped their history and contemporary political make-up. Treaty rights, sovereignty, urban communities and tribal enterprises will also be explored. *Applies toward the world cultures graduation requirement. Approved for Wisconsin teacher certification credit (P.A. 31)*

NAS 224 Native American Beadwork Styles (4)

An introduction to Native American beadwork styles from multiple regions. The course blends reading and lecture with practical application of Native American beadwork. Content includes American Indian arts and crafts law.

NAS 240 Sacred Ground: Native Peoples and Mother Earth (4)

Explore Indigenous environmental values from around the world as depicted in contemporary popular culture including such genres as film, music fiction, poetry, art and oratory.

NAS 280 Storytelling by Native American Women (4)

Examine a myriad of historic and contemporary aspects of native life through the eyes and stories of Native American women. Subjects include customs, culture, family, generations, mothers, daughters, grandmothers, art, education, fiction, poetry, political activism and spirituality. *Applies toward the world cultures graduation requirement.*

NAS 288 Politics of Indian Gaming (4)

Students will gain insight into contemporary issues surrounding the laws and politics of Indian gaming. It is designed to introduce students to the complexity of inter/intra-governmental relationships that bring together tribal governments and other external governments (i.e. local, state, federal and international).

NAS 295 Special Topics in Native American Studies (1-4)

NAS 298 Directed Studies in Native American Studies (1-4)

NAS 310 Tribal Law and Government (4)

Prerequisite: EN 211 with a grade of "C" or better or HON 102 and HON 112 and sophomore standing.

A focus on the relationship between American Indian tribes, the federal government and states. Emphasis is placed on examining the current state of tribal governments and tribal citizens within the State of Michigan. Students will examine the U.S. Constitution, treaties and tribal constitutions, federal and state laws and court cases.

NAS 315 History of Indian Boarding School Education (4)

The history of the initiation, development, alteration and demise of the federally mandated Indian boarding school education experience in the U.S. and Canada. Intergenerational and contemporary repercussions, both positive and negative, within indigenous societies are considered.

Northern Michigan University is located in beautiful Marquette, Michigan upon the ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe Nation. Anishinaabe people are among the First Peoples of the Great Lakes. Marquette is known to the Anishinaabe as Gchi-namebini Ziibing, which refers to a life-sustaining river.

NAS 320 American Indians: Identity and Media Images (4)

An analysis of the identity and images of American Indians portrayed within the historic and contemporary media. Perpetuation of stereotypes and appropriate or distorted cultural images, symbols, beliefs, stories and contributions by native people to the media will be explored.

Photo right: April Lindala



NAS 330 Native Cultures and the Dynamics of Religious Experience (4)

Examine the traditional philosophies of the Native peoples in the Great Lakes region as well as an exploration of how Christianity has influenced native peoples and communities. Students will learn about the historical impacts, positive and negative, that organized religion has had on Indian country. *Applies toward the world cultures graduation requirement.*

NAS 340 Kinomaage: Earth Shows Us the Way (4)

Kinomaage, when translated, is "Earth shows us the way." Students will examine various plants of the Northwoods that have been traditionally used by the Anishinaabeg. Students will also examine the close relationship between Anishinaabeg [Anishinaabe] peoples, culture and the Earth while comparing that relationship to modern day society's view of the environment.

NAS 342 Indigenous Environmental Movements (4)

Explore the historical and cultural foundations of the paradigms that led to the ecological exploitation of Indigenous lands. Students will examine how Indigenous cultures today are resisting domination and working to regain, protect and nurture their lands, the planet and their ways of life. *Applies toward the world cultures graduation requirement.*

NAS 404 Research and Engagement in Native American Studies (4)

Indigenous critical analysis is rooted in place-based First Nations/Native American/Indigenous belief systems focusing on the interconnectedness of communities and culture, and confronts historic and contemporary acts of colonialism that has led to systematic marginalization. This course will explore Indigenous critical thought and Indigenous critical theory as independent and necessary scholarship through varied text.

NAS 414 First Nations Women (4)

Focus on issues, topics affecting First Nations women of yesterday and today. Notable First Nations women will be explored along with multiple concepts including: relationships within tribal communities, spiritual health and survival of tribal nations.

NAS 422 American Indian Humor (2)

Through films, poems, essays, music lyrics, plays, political cartoons, personal memoir and short stories American Indian Humor studies the balance struck between amusing traits and solemn aspects why joking and comedy are so vital to North American Indigenous.

NAS 424 Indian Activism and Contemporary Cultural Expressions (4)

Investigate the relationship between Indian artists and contemporary Indian activism movements in the United States and Canada through the analysis of cultural expression as well as the skill of creating activist rhetoric through a creative process.

NAS 440 Awesiinh: Wild Animal Relations (4)

Anishinaabe teachings tell us it was from Ma'iingan (Wolf) that humanity learned of our close relationship to the planet and other species. Explore the lifeways, cultures, and perspectives of the Animal Nations through advanced forest immersion and through the study of cultural expressions and Traditional Ecological Knowledge from the Anishinaabe and other Indigenous peoples.

NAS 484 Native American Inclusion in the Classroom (2)

This course will challenge students' preconceptions of what Native American inclusion means and provide methods and materials that will help them meet state standards while effectively including Native American cultural concepts across the curriculum. Emphasis is on State of Michigan standards and Anishinaabe language and cultural concepts.

NAS 485 American Indian Education (3)

Students will explore significant American Indian education policy from pre-colonial times to the present day. Students will investigate treaties with educational provisions, current U.S. federal Indian education law; standards-based reform and Native American inclusion. Through online chat rooms, students will discuss these issues with individuals from different parts of the world. *On-line core course offered as part of the TEDNA endorsed Masters of Educational Administration program with American Indian Education emphasis. Approved for Wisconsin teacher certification credit (P.A. 31) with faculty approval.*

Photo right: Dr. Martin Reinhardt



NAS 486 American Indian Educational Law and Leadership (3)

Unique legal educational leadership relationships between American Indian tribes, federal, and state governments and K-12 schools are explored. Content includes aboriginal and treaty rights to education, federal and state Indian education laws, and contemporary tribal laws regarding American Indian education. *On-line core course offered as part of the TEDNA endorsed Masters of Educational Administration program with American Indian Education emphasis.*

NAS 488 Native American Service Learning Project (4)

Students will complete multiple academic learning projects targeted to benefit American Indian communities.

NAS 495/496 Special Topics in Native American Studies (1-4)

NAS 497/498 Directed Studies in Native American Studies (1-4)

Several courses meet General Education requirements and some 400-level courses fulfill graduate credit (*please check ahead of time*).

Photo right: December 2016 NMU Graduation. First graduating class of NAS majors and Dr. Reinhardt was the Student Choice for Commencement Speaker. Morning Thunder singers share a traditional song.



For more information call **906-227-1397** or visit **www.nmu.edu/cnas**.

Prepared September 2018 by A. E. Lindala, CNAS Director