

Message from the Director

January 2018

Boozhoo! Greetings Students and Friends:

On behalf of the NMU Center for Native American Studies team, miigwech (thank you) for visiting our website. I am moved to compose a more personal note for this update.

Native American Studies (NAS) promotes an approach of m'naademdamowin (respect)! Respect in and out of the classroom. Respect for creation. Respect for all beings of the earth. Respect for the elderly. Respect for different ways of knowing. And respect for different ways of learning. Respect for one's self and one's body. Respect for finding balance.

We, in NAS, have an obligation to help students and our communities reach a critical consciousness for the benefit of the earth, Indigenous peoples, all of our relations, and for those future generations yet to be born. We need intellectual warriors willing to sacrifice their time and energy to grip on to the tenets of the discipline of Native American Studies and create positive changes for tribal peoples! We need more people to respectfully engage the teachings found within the ancestral territory of the Anishinaabe for the next seven generations to come. These tenets of NAS and traditional teachings must be remembered, revocalized, and revitalized. As Mohawk artist Elizabeth Doxtater has said, we need to be of good mind and re-villagize! It is my hope that you feel similarly. If you are someone who seeks to serve Indigenous communities, reach out to us and let us know how our academic programs will help you achieve your goals.

If you are in or around the Marquette area, feel free to visit our "village." The Center for Native American Studies is located in [112 Whitman Hall](#) at the corner of Norway Street and Fair Avenue in Marquette, Michigan. We are *usually* open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday ET. If you are not able to see us in person, visit our Facebook page.

Have an amazing academic semester and be kind to one another.

Respectfully,

April E. Lindala, NMU Alum '97, '03, '06
Director of the NMU Center for Native American Studies
Associate Professor of English

(Photo courtesy of Marlee Gunsell, NMU Alum '17)

