Governance in American Indian communities is unique and complex as is the ongoing relationship between Indian nations and non-Native governments. Increase your understanding of our world by learning more about the fascinating history and current state of Native American governance.

**Description**

The American Indian nation governance certificate develops students' knowledge about and insight into government and governance in Native American communities. The curriculum covers themes ranging from the history, policies and sovereign status of American Indians to the legal relationships between the Native American nations and state governments as well as the U.S. federal government.

Students completing this certificate program will be better prepared to work with Indian nations, federal and state agencies, and nonprofit organizations, regardless of their academic major or final career path.

**At a Glance**

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus

**Program Requirements**

The certificate in American Indian Nation governance requires completion of 15 credit hours (12 of which must be upper-division and nine of which must be taken from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences). Students complete six credit hours of American Indian studies and six credit hours of political science. An additional three credit hours are selected from the approved list of AIS and POS policy and applied courses,
including an optional internship. All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) or higher for use in the certificate.

**AIS Core Courses (choose two) -- 6 credit hours**

- AIS 180: Introduction to American Indian Studies (C) (3)
- AIS 380: Contemporary Issues of American Indian Nations (C) (3)
- AIS 470: Tribal Governance (3)

**POS Core Courses (choose two) -- 6 credit hours**

- POS 310: American National Government (SB) (3)
- POS 325: Public Policy Development (SB) (3)
- POS 346: Problems of Democracy (HU) (3)
- POS 368: Ethics and Human Rights (3)
- POS 370: Law and Society (SB) (3)
- POS 439: Minority Group Politics in America (SB & C) (3)

**AIS or POS Policy and Applied Course (choose one) -- 3 credit hours**

- AIS 394: Reservation Economic Development (3)
- AIS 445: American Indian Leadership and Resistance (SB & H & C) (3)
- AIS 455: Human Rights and Cultural Resource Laws (3)
- AIS 484: Internship (3)
- AIS 494: American Indian and Indigenous Rights (3)
- AIS 494: American Indian Rights (3)
- AIS 498: Pro-Seminar (L) (3)
- POS 484: Internship (3)

Depending on a student's undergraduate program of study, prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this certificate.

**Enrollment Requirements**

A student pursuing an undergraduate certificate must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at ASU. Undergraduate certificates are not awarded prior to the award of an undergraduate degree. A student already holding an undergraduate degree may pursue an undergraduate certificate as a nondegree-seeking graduate student.

**Contact Information**