American Indian Studies (Visual and Oral Culture), MS

ASU is not currently accepting applications for this program.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS American Indian Studies (Visual and Oral Culture)

The MS in American Indian studies is a transdisciplinary program that results in students having an intellectual and practical understanding of the issues facing American Indian populations and the ability to apply that knowledge. Students gain problem-solving skills in a range of professional arenas, including governmental, private and nonprofit agencies. The program focuses on the languages, cultures, arts, activism, histories, legal policy and education from an American Indian studies perspective. Delivery is through in-person courses.

The visual and oral culture concentration explores and contributes to American Indian culture and history as it exists in visual, material and written forms through creative writing, literature, poetry, film, photography, performing arts, digital arts, oral tradition, and history and communication from an American Indian studies paradigm.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (AIS 580)
**Required Core (9 credit hours)**
AIS 501 American Indian Studies Paradigms (3)  
AIS 502 American Indian Studies Research Methods (3)  
AIS 503 Contemporary Issues of American Indian Nations (3)

**Concentration (9 credit hours)**

**Electives (6 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**
AIS 580 Practicum (6) or  
AIS 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
For concentration and electives options, students should see the academic unit for approved courses.

Students will select a thesis or nonthesis option. Both are research projects, but the applied project is more applied in nature. Thesis students will be involved in a major research project under the direction of their faculty advisors, culminating in a thesis. This is the option students should select if they have an interest in a research-oriented position within an organization or agency or wish to pursue a doctoral degree. Nonthesis students will complete a practicum project that identifies and addresses an applied problem or issue relevant to a partner agency or organization under the direction of their faculty advisors. This is the option students should select if they are interested in a leadership or managerial-level position within an organization or agency.

The required core classes emphasize the knowledge and skills all graduates must have. Concentrations and electives are designed so students can concentrate in the areas of visual and oral culture, indigenous rights and social justice, cultural resource revitalization, and sustainability or tribal leadership and governance.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university of recognized standing in a related field such as history, justice studies, sociology, ethnic studies, anthropology, political science or education.
Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. Applicants should visit [https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency](https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency) for more information.

**Contact Information**

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