INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Native American Studies program exists to broaden the understanding of students interested in the history, culture, and contemporary situations of Native Americans in the United States. Our program considers broadly the relationship of indigeneity and settler colonialism, foregrounding the historical contexts and constraints through which indigenous individuals and polities have expressed and continue to express themselves.

The Native American Studies major and minor are offered by the Department of Ethnic Studies, which also offers a major and minor in Ethnic Studies as well as a minor in Race and the Law.

“During a time when Indigenous land rights, voting rights, art and culture, and the effects of climate change are making headlines, Native American Studies provides the tools to understand our past and present and to work for a better future.”

— Shari Huhndorf, Professor

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

The Native American Studies curriculum has been structured to provide courses that deal with both historical and cultural analysis of Native American cultures and contemporary legal and social institutions that affect Native American life. The program not only stresses sound academic preparation in the classroom but also allows students the flexibility to take part in community-oriented education through fieldwork or studies directed towards community situations and problems.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Check out resources from Native American Student Development (NASD)
- Enrich your studies with a summer minor in Race and the Law
- Get involved with the Indigenous and Native Coalition
- Complete a senior honors thesis in the major.
# Native American Studies

**Bachelor of Arts**

## Explore Your Major

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<th><strong>First Year</strong></th>
<th><strong>Second Year</strong></th>
<th><strong>Third Year</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fourth Year</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans. Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements. Enroll in ETH STD 11AC Introduction to Ethnic Studies.</td>
<td>Enroll in Native American Studies 20A and 20B if you haven’t done so yet. Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major. Review major guidelines for study abroad.</td>
<td>Focus on upper division requirements and electives. Enroll in methods courses ETH STD 101A or ETH STD 101B. Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor. Ask the major advisor about the honors program.</td>
<td>Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate. Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements. Satisfy the NATAMST 397 field study requirement if you haven’t done so already.</td>
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<td><strong>Connect and Build Community</strong></td>
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<td>Get 1:1 mentoring with Berkeley Connect in Ethnic Studies and L&amp;S Mentors Program. Join a student organization such as the Indigenous and Native Coalition Recruitment and Retention Center. Check out resources from Native American Student Development (NASSD). Listen to the Indigenous United podcast. Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.</td>
<td>Attend Native American Studies Program events. Consider becoming a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley. Check out events sponsored by the Multicultural Community Center.</td>
<td>Join a professional association such as the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association. Connect with alumni groups like the Native American and Indigenous Alumni Network. Build your network as you prepare to graduate.</td>
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<td><strong>Discover Your Passions</strong></td>
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<td>Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar like Native American Studies 90, L&amp;S 1, or a student-run DeCal course. Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October. Visit the Ethnic Studies Library in Stephens Hall and explore the Native American Studies Collection.</td>
<td>Continue with a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course. Learn about the Joseph A. Myers Center for Research on Native American Issues. Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URIAP and SURF-SMART. Enrich your studies with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor like Race and the Law.</td>
<td>Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF. Explore campus centers and institutes like the Center for Race &amp; Gender. Center for Research on Social Change, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, and Othering &amp; Belonging Institute.</td>
<td>Teach your own DeCal course. Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study and submit your work to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal. Keep pursuing your interests through a fellowship or gap year after graduation.</td>
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<td><strong>Engage Locally and Globally</strong></td>
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<td>Attend the Calapaloopa student activities fair and get involved with a student organization. Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center. Explore study, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.</td>
<td>Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course. Get involved with campus issues as a NASD Intern. Volunteer with the Amah Mutsun Land Trust’s Native Stewardship Corps.</td>
<td>Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program. Work with archaeological data and community partners as part of the BACA Project. Study and Intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital.</td>
<td>Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program. Interested in a public service career? Apply for the John Gardner Fellowship. Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.</td>
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<td><strong>Reflect and Plan Your Future</strong></td>
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<td>Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library. Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail. Explore career fields in the Career Connections Networking Series or a winter internship.</td>
<td>Reflect on your education so far and continue to set goals for yourself. Meet with a Career Center counselor to discuss your career options and goals. Think about doing an internship and attend an internship fair. Learn about graduate and professional school See Step-by-Step for planning help.</td>
<td>Update your resume and LinkedIn profile. Discuss post-graduate options with advisors and professors. Attend career and graduate school fairs like the “Nonprofit, Education, and Public Service Career Fair.” Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters.</td>
<td>Utilize job search tools from the Career Center. Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting. Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.</td>
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## WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Students in the Native American Studies Program gain skills that prepare them for careers in a variety of fields, including teaching, counseling, law, journalism, marketing, community and housing development, radio and television, health and medicine, community and union organizing, and social work, as well as positions in federal, state, and local governments and those at the city and county levels.

### Jobs and Employers

- Acquisitions Editor, Oregon State University Press
- Anthropologist, Wacipi Research and Consulting
- Archaeology Intern, Presidio Trust
- Chief Administrative Officer, Native American Health Center
- HR Manager, Changing Tides Family Service
- Operations Coordinator, DroneBase Internal Communications Manager, Healthline Media
- Native Summer Youth Employment Program Coordinator, United Indian Nations, Inc.

### Graduate Programs

- Counseling, Masters
- City and Regional Planning, Masters
- Data Science, Masters
- Education, Masters, PhD
- Law, JD
- Medicine, MD
- Public Administration, Masters
- Public Health, Masters
- Public Policy, Masters
- Social Work, Masters

Examples gathered from the Ethnic Studies Department and LinkedIn.

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