PROGRAM IN AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

Matthew Sakiestewa Gilbert, Director
1204 W. Nevada, Urbana, IL 61801
PH: (217) 265-9870
http://ais.illinois.edu

Minor in American Indian Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/minors/american-indian-studies)

American Indian Studies (AIS) prepares students in a range of methodologies, theories, technologies, and teaching approaches that compliments a thorough undergraduate education.

Specifically, an undergraduate minor is designed to assist students in preparing for graduate school or for careers in a variety of pursuits including public and business administration, education, public relations, marketing, politics, and government, especially as they relate to American Indian and Native American constituencies. Career opportunities also exist in agencies such as Indian Health Services, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Land Management.

For many, AIS is an ideal minor that presents a critical and intellectual foundation for success in an increasingly challenging world.

AIS Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/AIS)

Courses

AIS 101 Intro to Indian Studies credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/101)
Interdisciplinary introduction surveys the stories, histories, and lands of tribal peoples who became known as "American Indians".
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Hist Phil
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 102 Contemp Issues in Ind Country credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/102)
Surveys a variety of topics in contemporary American Indian life.
Focusing on the modern experience, topics may include law and politics; lands and environment; education; visual arts; languages and literatures; health; social justice; business; treaties; the sacred; gender; sports; decolonization; comparative tribal, Indian and global indigenous concerns.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Social Beh Sci - Soc Sci
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 102 Contemp Issues in Ind Country credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/102)

AIS 140 Native Religious Traditions credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/140)
An interdisciplinary survey of native religious traditions, exploring the breadth and depth of spiritual expression among native people in North America. Assigned readings and class discussions cover a variety of important themes including sacred landscapes, mythic narratives, oral histories, communal identities, tribal values, elder teachings, visionary experiences, ceremonial practices, prayer traditions, and trickster wisdom. Students also consider historic encounters with missionary colonialism and contemporary strategies for religious self-determination. Class discussions are supplemented by audiovisual materials and guest speakers.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Hist Phil
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 165 Lang & Culture Native North Am credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/165)
Same as ANTH 165. See ANTH 165.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Cultural Studies - Non-West

AIS 199 Undergraduate Open Seminar credit: 1 to 5 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/199)
May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours.

AIS 256 Intro to American Indian Lit credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/256)
Introduces students to the study of American Indian literature by focusing on texts by contemporary American Indian novelists, poets, and playwrights. Over the course of the semester, students will consider how indigenous aesthetics shape narrative in addition to examining how American Indian authors engage the legacies of colonization and the histories of their tribal communities through their stories. Same as ENGL 265.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Lit Arts
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 275 Am Indian and Indigenous Film credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/275)
Introduction to representations of American Indians and Indigenous peoples in film. Reconstructions of American Indians within the Western genre and more recent reconstructions by Native filmmakers will be considered. Other topics may include the development of an indigenous aesthetic; the role of documentaries and nonfiction films in the history of Native and Indigenous film; the role of commerce in the production of Native films. Same as ENGL 275 and MACS 275.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Lit Arts
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 277 Encounters in Native America credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/277)
Same as HIST 277. See HIST 277.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Hist Phil
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 278 Native American History credit: 3 Hours. (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/terms/AIS/278)
Same as HIST 278. See HIST 278.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
- Humanities - Hist Phil
- Cultural Studies - US Minority

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2019
AIS 280 Intro to Federal Indian Policy  
Traces the evolution of U.S. federal law as it pertains to American Indian nations. From the doctrine of discovery, through which European nations asserted control over the lands they claimed, to the processes of reorganization and recognition that have shaped contemporary rights and struggles native nations currently face, this class will interrogate how American Indian nations were transformed into “domestic dependent nations”.

AIS 285 Indigenous Thinkers  
An introduction to the English-language traditions of indigenous intellectuals. Specific topics vary. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 6 hours. May be repeated in subsequent terms to a maximum of 9 hours. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil, Cultural Studies - Non-West

AIS 288 American Indians of Illinois  
Same as ANTH 288 and HIST 288. See ANTH 288. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil, Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 291 Independent Study  
Supervised reading and research in American Indian Studies chosen by the student with instructor approval. Approved for both letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: One course in American Indian Studies and consent of instructor.

AIS 295 US Citizenship Comparatively  
Same as AAS 215, AFRO 215, GWS 215, and LLS 215. See AAS 215. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil, Cultural Studies - US Minority

AIS 343 Criminalization and Punishment  
Same as AAS 343, AFRO 343, GWS 343, and LLS 343. See LLS 343.

AIS 400 Indigenous Governance  
Indigenous peoples have long and rich traditions of governance and political philosophies that have shaped institutions and informed diplomacies amongst each other and with European nations. This course examines the indigenous governance historically and within contemporary contexts with emphasis on the importance of sovereignty within institutions, education, language revitalization, and cultural resurgence. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Any 100 or 200-level American Indian Studies course or consent of instructor.

AIS 451 Politics in Children's Lit  
Students will revisit classic and popular children's books, applying critical theoretical perspectives to texts with the purpose of examining ideologies behind their creation, publication, review, distribution, and consumption. An emphasis will be placed on texts by and about American Indians. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Fulfillment of the Advanced Composition requirement; junior standing or above; or consent of instructor.