

Department of Native American Studies

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Montana State University has an American Indian enrollment of approximately 850 students. There is an active American Indian Student Council (AIC) as well as chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) and the Society of American Indian Graduate Students (SAIGS). NAS houses the American Indian Student Center and the American Indian and Alaska Native Student Support Services office, with staff providing Native students with academic advising, counseling, and mentoring. The Student Center offers tutorial assistance, and a computer lab.

Admission

The program accepts applications on a rolling basis.

A bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited institution is required for admission to the master's program in Native American Studies. The Graduate School recommends that prospective applicants reach out to the Native American Studies Department by email or phone call in order to ascertain the suitability of the program for the applicant.

Each applicant must submit the following during the online application process (<http://www.montana.edu/gradschool/admissions/apply.html>):

1. Application to MSU-Bozeman (link above): application process includes a non-refundable \$70 application fee.
2. Official transcript of highest university/college degree conferred: applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 for the last two years of undergraduate study. If the applicant received their degree from MSU; transcripts are not necessary.
3. The NAS faculty would like you to write a personal statement, where you will reflect on the following (2-3 page maximum):
 - a. Short-term goals in the program
 - b. Long-term goals in the program
 - c. Identify a faculty member you are most interested in working with during your time in the program. Explain why their research, teaching style, or professional experience resonates with your academic goals.
 - d. Summarize any previous coursework, training, or educational experiences that have prepared you for success in this program.
4. Two academic writing samples (demonstrating the applicant's research and writing capabilities).
5. Three letters of recommendation: each recommender will address the applicant's potential as a graduate student. The letters, preferably from previous faculty, must be signed and sealed in envelopes or emailed by the faculty member (once prompted during the online process).
6. A current curriculum vita or resumé.
7. International Students Only: English proficiency scores are required for applicants who are not U.S. citizens and not from countries where English is the official language. This requirement is waived if the applicant has earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from an institution in the U.S. Minimum scores are as follows: TOEFL [80], IELTS [level 6.5] or PTE [54].

Deadlines

For applicants also applying for graduate teaching assistantships, the deadline is April 15 for the following academic year.

Applicants must be formally accepted by The Graduate School with departmental endorsement from Native American Studies.

Financial Assistance

Graduate Teaching Assistantships, awarded on a competitive basis, are available in NAS to formally admitted graduate students. The GTA includes a minimum 6 credit tuition waiver and stipend. Selected graduate students will teach two recitation sections of Introduction to Native American Studies. See the Graduate Assistantships sections on the Graduate School website for detailed information on appointment criteria.

Graduate classes in Native American Studies

The Following upper division and graduate level courses are offered in Native American Studies:

NASX 405	Gender Issues in Native American Studies	3
NASX 415	Native Food Systems	3
NASX 430	American Indian Education	3
NASX 440	Montana Indian Literature	3
NASX 450	History of American Indians	3
NASX 470	Indigenous Planning: Strategic Economic and Human Development Approaches	3
NASX 471	Native Grantsmanship	3
NASX 476	American Indian Policy and Law	3
NASX 490R	Undergraduate Research	1-6
NASX 490Z	Undergraduate Research	1-6
NASX 491	Special Topics	1-4
NASX 492	Independent Study	1-3
NASX 494	Seminar	1
NASX 498	Internship/Cooperative Educ	2-12
NASX 505	Proseminar Native Amer Studies	3
NASX 515	Native Food Systems	3
NASX 520	Fem/Gender Theories IN NAS	3
NASX 521	Tribal Government: Yesterday & Today	3
NASX 523	Am Indians/Minority in High Ed	3
NASX 524	Contemporary Issues in American Indian Studies	3
NASX 525	Indigenous Philosophies/Sacred Ecologies	3
NASX 530	Federal Law and Indian Policy	3
NASX 542	Research Praxis in Native American Studies	6
NASX 550	Native Americans: Dispelling the Myths	3
NASX 551	Native North America: Art, Agency, Activism	3
NASX 552	Indigenous Nations of Montana	3
NASX 553	Indigenous Literature and the West	3
NASX 560	Native American Lit Tradition	3
NASX 570	Indigenous Planning: Strategic Economic and Human Development Approaches	3
NASX 571	Native Grantsmanship	3
NASX 575	Professional Paper	1-6
NASX 589	Graduate Consultation	1-3
NASX 590	Master's Thesis	1-10
NASX 591	Special Topics	1-4

NASX 592	Independent Study	1-3
NASX 594	Seminar	1-4
NASX 598	Internship	1-6

Further Information

For further information regarding the program, contact Native American Studies at (406) 994-3881 or e-mail nas@montana.edu. In addition, applicants may refer questions to The Graduate School or find the graduate catalog and policies on-line (<http://www.montana.edu/gradschool/policy/>). All applicants are expected to be familiar with the degree requirements of both the department and The Graduate School. Also see the MSU University home page (<http://www.montana.edu/>) or the home page for Native American Studies (<http://www.montana.edu/wwwnas/>).

Graduate Programs

- M.A. in Native American Studies (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/letters-science/native-american-studies/ma-native-american-studies/>)
 - Plan A (Thesis Option)
 - Plan B (Professional Paper/Project Option)

Graduate Certificates

- Graduate (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/programstext-indigenous-food-systems/>) Certificate (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/programstext-indigenous-food-systems/>) in (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/programstext-indigenous-food-systems/>) Indigenous Food Systems (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/programstext-indigenous-food-systems/>) (*Online*)
- Graduate Certificate in Native American Studies (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/letters-science/native-american-studies/online-certificate-native-american-studies/>) (*Online*)