

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN NATIVE STUDIES LEADERSHIP

This program of study is the journey to self-determination and reclaiming our Cultural Sovereignty. Traditional knowledge is our canoe. It moves us away from the Western genre that has shaped and determined a false sense of “who we are” and towards our original identity - an identity that is formed by sacred histories, language, origin stories, and the heroes who continue to defend our families and our homelands.

Freshman Entry Option

This option is for students who have not earned an approved Associate in Arts and Sciences or the equivalent.

NORTHWEST INDIAN COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS		Credits
CMST 101	Introduction to Oral Communication (CS) OR	4
CMST 210	Interpersonal Communication (CS, HT) OR	
CMST 220	Public Speaking (CS, HT)	
CMPS 101	Introduction to Computers or above (TE)	3
HMDV 110	Introduction to Successful Learning (NE)	4
TOTAL NORTHWEST INDIAN COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS		11
NORTHWEST INDIAN COLLEGE FOUNDATIONAL REQUIREMENTS		Credits
CSOV 101	Introduction to Cultural Sovereignty (HT)	5
CSOV 102	The Language of Our Ancestors (HT) or approved Native language courses ¹	5
CSOV 120	Reclaiming Our History (SS)	5
CSOV 130	Icons of Our Past (HT)	5
ECON 250	Subsistence Economies: Restoring Prosperity (SS)	5
EDUC 202	The Tide Has Changed: Educating Our Own (SS)	5
POLS 225	History of Federal Indian Policy (SS)	5
TOTAL NORTHWEST INDIAN FOUNDATIONAL REQUIREMENTS		35

¹ One or more Native language courses totaling at least 5 credits. Consult with an advisor regarding general education requirements. Requires approval by the Dean of Academics and Distance Learning.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS		Credits
ENGL 101	English Composition I (CS)	5
ENGL 102	English Composition II (CS) OR	5
ENGL 202	Technical Writing (CS)	
MATH 102	College Algebra or other course satisfying the quantitative skills requirement	5
Humanities Distribution 15 credit requirement- met in Core Requirements		0
Social Science Distribution 15 credit requirement- met in Core Requirements		0
Natural Science Distribution 15 credit requirement- choose courses meeting AAS Natural Science Requirements		15
TOTAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS		30
NATIVE STUDIES LEADERSHIP CORE REQUIREMENTS		Credits
CSOV 301	Indigenous Theory and Methods: We Own Our Knowledge	5
CSOV 302	Indigenous Research: Validating Our Past—Writing Our Future	5
CSOV 320	Impacts of Colonization	5
CSOV 335	Social Justice: In Defense of Our Homelands	5
CSOV 410	Senior Seminar	5
CSOV 490	Honoring Traditional Leadership	5
CSOV 499	Senior Project: Rebuilding Our Nations	10
NESC 310	Native Science	5
POLS 118	The Rights of Indian Tribes (SS)	3
POLS 350	Native Governments and Politics	5
TOTAL NATIVE STUDIES LEADERSHIP CORE REQUIREMENTS		53

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ELECTIVES		Credits
A maximum of 11 credits can be numbered 100-299. There must be at least 40 elective credits to be numbered 300-499. Choose elective courses in consultation with a faculty advisor.		51
TOTAL ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS		51
TOTAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, FRESHMAN-ENTRY OPTION		180

Junior-Entry Option

This option is for students entering at the junior level after earning an approved Associate in Arts and Sciences or the equivalent from NWIC or another institution. Students who have completed another type of associate's degree should consult with an advisor because additional coursework may be necessary to complete program requirements. Students transferring from another college may apply up to 90 credits toward completion of the program. Students must complete at least 180 credits, 60 of which are at the 300-499 level, in order to graduate.

PRIOR CREDITS		Credits
Prior Credits	From an NWIC associate's degree or a transfer degree	90
TOTAL PRIOR CREDITS		90
NATIVE STUDIES LEADERSHIP CORE REQUIREMENTS		Credits
CSOV 300	Cultural Sovereignty Transfer Seminar ²	5
CSOV 301	Indigenous Theory and Methods: We Own Our Knowledge	5
CSOV 302	Indigenous Research: Validating Our Past—Writing Our Future	5
CSOV 320	Impacts of Colonization	5
CSOV 335	Social Justice: In Defense of Our Homelands	5
CSOV 410	Senior Seminar	5
CSOV 490	Honoring Traditional Leadership	5
CSOV 499	Senior Project: Rebuilding Our Nations	10
NESC 310	Native Science	5
POLS 350	Native Governments and Politics	5
TOTAL NATIVE STUDIES LEADERSHIP CORE REQUIREMENTS		55

² Students who have completed CSOV 101 or the equivalent at NWIC or another institution need to enroll in 5 credits of upper-division coursework in place of CSOV 300.

ELECTIVES		Credits
A maximum of 11 credits numbered 100-299. Choose elective courses in consultation with a faculty advisor.		35
TOTAL ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS		35
TOTAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, JUNIOR-ENTRY OPTION		180



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PROGRAM OUTCOMES

SKILLS OF LEADERSHIP

In Coast Salish territory, the people of pre-contact times lived in highly complex social and family structures. This required individuals and family groups to exercise extensive effective communication. Every leader was multilingual in order to communicate and collaborate with their neighbors. This remains true today. Students who aspire to become leaders in their own communities will bring their ancestors' skills from traditional times into contemporary settings to achieve strong and sound sovereignty.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will:

- Demonstrate effective communication in diverse situations, both verbally and non-verbally, in ways that are appropriate to our culture(s).
- Demonstrate the ability to speak on behalf of their Tribal communities without expressing individual self-interest.

VALUES

The Coast Salish people have values that are imprinted from an early age. These values of endurance, honor, integrity, respect, and humility allow leaders to make informed decisions based on quality knowledge that supports Indigenousness, sovereignty, and the protection of our homelands.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will:

Adhere to traditional values by making quality decisions that defend cultural knowledge, Tribal communities, and traditional homelands. This is demonstrated through use of the values:

- Honor and integrity
- Respect

Take an active approach to community building by participating in service learning projects. This is demonstrated through the use of the values:

- Endurance
- Humility

KNOWLEDGE

The Coast Salish are very intentional in teaching foundational knowledge to their young leaders. In this program, students develop the ability to differentiate between their inherent birthright and the acquired rights conferred by the federal government.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will:

- Advocate for their inherent rights based on the origin stories and traditional knowledge that is passed down through the language.
- Examine, or inspect acquired rights by interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating treaties, federal law and policy as they apply to Indian Country.

WORLD VIEW

Traditional Coast Salish leaders made great sacrifices to defend their inherent sovereignty. Through the language and teachings of their elders, these leaders developed skills, values, and knowledge that ensured the survival of our inherent rights.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will:

- Apply and defend the two guiding principles of Indigenousness and sovereignty.
- Embrace the skills, values, and knowledge that reflect our traditional ideology which allows us to be inherently sovereign.