American Indian Studies, BS

LAAISBS

How can Indigenous sovereignty, sustainability and human rights lead to innovative solutions to real-world problems? Make a difference in local, national and global communities by discovering the knowledge, experiences and perspectives of American Indian nations and Indigenous peoples worldwide.

Program description

The BS program in American Indian studies emphasizes the latest research impacting Indigenous communities. Grounded in traditional knowledge and perspectives, the program is committed to highlighting the histories, languages, cultures, arts and contemporary challenges facing American Indian and Indigenous nations and peoples.

Students learn how to project and strengthen Indigenous communities across the U.S. and explore law and policy, colonization and decolonization, nation-building and more, developing career-readiness skills such as critical and creative thinking and reasoning.

In addition to reviewing the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit The College's website for more information and requirements.

At a glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe

- **Second language requirement:** No
- **First required math course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math intensity:** General

Required courses (Major Map)

2024 - 2025 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree with:

American Indian Studies (Indigenous Rights and Social Justice), MS

American Indian Studies (Tribal Leadership and Governance), MS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Admission requirements

General university admission requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the Change of Major form for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU® to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

Global opportunities

Global experience
Through study abroad, students can connect with Indigenous cultures around the world and expand the lens through which they view North American Indigenous populations. They can learn alongside peers from other countries and develop professional skills that include teamwork and cross-cultural communication. Students can stay on track academically by completing courses while they are in one of more than 300 Global Education programs.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the American Indian studies program are qualified to fill positions at the tribal, state and federal government levels and in the private sector. They can pursue professional careers in fields such as government service or public service. For example, federally and tribally operated schools located in remote areas within Indian Country have high turnover rates for both teachers and staff. American Indian studies graduates should be available to help fill these positions. Furthermore, the federal government, a major employer on many reservations across the country, is in need of qualified people who are knowledgeable about Indian cultures, laws and policies. Additionally, many American Indian nations' economies and infrastructures are developing at a rapid pace, and they have a continuous need to fill mid-management and management-level positions.

Graduates find positions in many areas, such as:

- the arts
- community action work
- public administration (tribal or state relations, nonprofit management, education administration, planning)
- public health
- tribal employment (political office, tribal management, cultural resource programming, grant writing, cultural specializations, youth services)

This program also provides suitable preparation for advancing to graduate study or law school.

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
Advocate	8.6%	$38,520
Cultural Studies Professor	3.9%	$80,910
General Manager (GM)	4.2%	$98,100
Museum Curator	11.1%	$60,380
Politician	3.4%	$48,090
Recreation Coordinator	4.6%	$31,680
Security Manager	4.6%	$99,030
Social Services Director	9.1%	$74,240
Tour Guide	8.1%	$34,440
Tutor	3.3%	$36,680

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

Bright Outlook

Contact information

American Indian Studies Program | DISCVRY 356
AIS@asu.edu | 480-965-3634