



“Knowledge, combined with the wisdom of our peoples, creates true opportunity.”

- Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley

“I want to have a positive impact on the Hopi community. My goal is to participate in the Native American Renewable Energy Program, identifying our vision and goals and sustaining our culture while being successful in the modern world.”

Deborah Tewa (Class of 2004)

Education is the key to opportunity. If you want to lead your indigenous community or institution to prosperity and success, the university’s Applied Indigenous Studies (AIS) program will show you the way.

You will prepare to tackle challenges facing today’s Native communities by complementing contemporary scholarship with traditional tribal knowledge. Gain critical skills in economic development, policy articulation, and environmental studies. Study tribal histories and cultures, federal Indian policies, and contemporary reservation conditions. You will be encouraged to pursue research, fieldwork, and teaching opportunities.

The AIS program emphasizes contemporary tribal management skills and respect for the knowledge, values, and beliefs of indigenous cultures. In the Visiting Tribal Elders and Leaders program, you will learn first-hand from current leaders how tribes balance their traditions with the pressures of the modern world. You’ll graduate with the tools you need to contribute to your community

Career Opportunities

Study to become a . . .	Begin your career in . . .
Business manager	Economic development
Community advocate	Ecosystem science and management
Cultural center director	Environmental resource practice
Tribal official	Lobbying
Government liaison	Policy analysis
Program director	Social and health programming
Tribal archeologist	Tribal cultural resource management
Preservation officer	Tribal government

Degree Programs

- **Bachelor of Arts in Applied Indigenous Studies***
- **Bachelor of Science in Applied Indigenous Studies***
- *Available also as an extended major, with emphasis areas in:
 - Cultural Resource Management
 - Economic Development
 - Environmental Management
 - Environmental Science
 - Indigenous Knowledge
 - Politics and Movement
- **Minor in Applied Indigenous Studies**
- **Minor in Native American Studies**
- **Minor in Interdisciplinary Indigenous Health Studies**

Explore Courses that Jump-start Your Career

Affect the present by understanding the past
The history of tribal government is longer than the history of the United States. In fact, the Founding Fathers looked to the Five Nations of the Iroquois for guidance in drafting the U.S. Constitution. In **Current American Indian Government**, you will survey the development of modern tribal governments, beginning with a historical examination of North American indigenous societies.

Balancing research with respect
Who owns the past? How do scholars decide which artifacts stay on site and which “belong” in a museum display? Our course in **Museums and American Indians: Collecting, Displaying, and Repatriating Indigenous Cultures** will introduce you to the controversial history of museum anthropology and current developments in tribal and non-tribal museums.

Federal policy and tribal people
Since the colonial period, indigenous peoples in North America have been adapting to European arrival and expansion. In **Roots of Federal American Indian Policy**, you will study the philosophical underpinnings that shaped today’s federal policies toward Indians.

Nation Building

Today, thanks to improving attitudes toward tribal leadership and advocacy, more state and county governments are honoring claims to tribal sovereignty. These governments increasingly recognize the special status of tribal nations as autonomous political entities and deal with them as such. In response, tribal leaders have made education a top priority, recognizing its vital role in tribal empowerment. By fostering educational programs that address social, economic, cultural, and environmental challenges in Native American communities, tribal leaders nurture the next generation of leaders to effectively address those challenges.

The **HAPA** Hawaiian Club promotes understanding of Pacific island culture and provides a sense of community for students from Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Samoa, and Tahiti.

Interested in indigenous issues worldwide? Check out **ABYA YALA University Association (AYUA)**. Abya Yala is a Kuna Indian word meaning “continent of life.” In AYUA, you’ll receive academic support and gather with students, faculty, and community members. You’ll also have opportunities to attend national and international gatherings of indigenous peoples.

Participate!

Make friends and find help with internships, academic referrals, and counseling through the **AIS Traditional Knowledge Scholars Program**. Build community with **AIS Resident Elders Program**, through socials, lectures and films, field trips, workshops, peer-mentoring, and alumni relations.

You’ll find opportunities to give service with **Native Americans United**, which holds fundraisers and other social events, and arranges volunteer community service.

Finish in Four

Stay on a four-year track to your degree and save money in the process. The university guarantees that you will have access to the courses you’ll need to graduate on time. You are responsible for talking to an advisor early. All AIS undergraduate degree paths are eligible.

Visit nau.edu/finishinfour.