

Native American and Indigenous Studies

NAIS 3000. Survey of Native American Languages. 3 Hours.

A survey of the diversity in Native American languages families, problems of classification, language particulars and social uses, and contemporary issues. Topics include language mapping, language contact, historical language shift, oral histories, literacy, contemporary language shift, language revitalization programming, and the complex connections between language and identity.

NAIS 3030. African to African American Philosophy and Religious Studies. 3 Hours.

Also offered as PHIL 3030, REL 3030, and AFAM 3030. An examination of philosophies and religious traditions which begin in Africa and move through the Caribbean into the Americas. The course emphasizes ontological and epistemological themes that begin in Africa and cross the Atlantic as well as Indigenous African influences in the philosophies and religions of the Caribbean and the Americas.

NAIS 3500. Contemporary Native American Experience. 3 Hours.

An examination of the Native American experience from WWII to the present. This course addresses issues of expectations of enfranchisement, poverty, termination, and self-determination as well as, the development of social movements focusing on issues of Native American enfranchisement, cultural revitalization, and civil rights.

NAIS 3610. Native American Thought and Culture. 3 Hours.

Also offered as PHIL 3610 and REL 3610. A study of Native American cultures in the areas of epistemology, ontology, metaphysics, religion and spirituality. The course will examine historic and current trends related to the interaction between Native American and Western cultures.

NAIS 3620. Post Colonization Issues in Indigenous Cultures. 3 Hours.

Also offered as PHIL 3620 and REL 3620. An examination of post-colonial issues in Indigenous cultures throughout the world. The course will focus on the individual and academic voices of Indigenous people. Attention will be given to issues of epistemology, ontology, metaphysics, religion, spirituality, ethics, and a range of social and political issues.

NAIS 3630. Native American Women. 3 Hours.

Also offered as PHIL 3630 or REL 3630 or WGST 3630. An examination of the contributions of North and South American Indigenous women in the areas of epistemology, ontology, metaphysics, religion, spirituality, and ethics. The course will include a range of Indigenous cultures, such as Alaskan, Hawaiian, and Pacific and Atlantic islanders and will explore the issues faced by Indigenous women in the Western Hemisphere.

NAIS 3640. Alternative Religions of the Worlds. 3 Hours.

Also offered as REL 3640. An examination of the religions of the world not typically counted among the major world religions. The course will include the religions of Africa, South American, the Pacific and Atlantic islanders, and Wiccan and Neo-Pagan religions. The focus will be on the traditions as they are expressed and experienced by the followers of the religions.

NAIS 4100. Native Americans and Criminal Justice. 3 Hours.

Also offered as CRJU 4680. An examination of the Native American experience in terms of the American criminal justice system. Cultural conflict, poverty, colonization, forced assimilation, and deculturalization will be examined as possible sources of crime in the Native American community. Further, the subject of victimization, as well as that of the importation of crime patterns and behaviors, will be explored.

NAIS 4200. Federal Indian Law. 3 Hours.

Also offered as CRJU 4700, and POLS 4820. An examination of the development and state of federal Indian law. The legal premise of "discovery", matters of jurisdiction, the plenary power of Congress, and the development of self-determination, and other topics will be illustrated through a review of relevant federal case law.

NAIS 4500. Special Topics in Native American and Indigenous Studies. 3 Hours.

Topics vary. An intensive study in a current topic relevant to Native American and Indigenous Studies. This course may be repeated for credit twice.