

# COMMITTEE INTERDISCIPLINARY MAJOR, BA: AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

## This program is not currently accepting new students.

The Committee Interdisciplinary Major with a focus in American Indian Studies provides students with a thorough understanding of the Native American tribal nations in North America and their influence and impact in today's culture and society.

Our program embraces everyone interested in understanding the treaties, history, cultures, and politics that shaped the formation of North America and continue to have relevance today. While UWM does attract a number of students with Native American ancestry to the program, our classes are full of people from all types of backgrounds. They all share a common interest in understanding the past in order to impact the present. The curriculum develops the depth of students' experience with the methodologies and sources used in the field of American Indian Studies. Although interdisciplinary, American Indian Studies encompasses a distinct body of knowledge. Students majoring in American Indian Studies can select from a wide variety of courses organized under three areas:

- Culture and Creative Expression
- History, Law, and Government
- Education and Community Policy Studies

There are 565 tribal nations in the US, and 12 are located in the state of Wisconsin. UWM is a national driving force in this academic area because of our location; we have the most Native American faculty of any other UW campus in Wisconsin.

Students in our program will receive lots of personalized attention and will find support and camaraderie in groups and events like our American Indian Student Services office and our annual Pow Wow. The personalized nature of our program is also reflected in the capstone research project, planning for which begins in junior year. Students will work with a faculty member to complete a capstone research project which focuses on that student's particular niche interest in the field of American Indian Studies.

## This program is not currently accepting new students.

### Requirements

#### Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts Degree

Complete 120 credits including 90 credits in the College of Letters & Science and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within

five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

### University General Education Requirements (GER)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Oral and Written Communication</b>		
<i>Part A</i>		
Achieve a grade of C or better in the following course:		
ENGLISH 102	College Writing and Research (or equivalent)	
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as OWC-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
<b>Quantitative Literacy</b>		
<i>Part A</i>		
Earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course, or achieve a placement code of at least 30 on the mathematics placement test (or other appropriate test, as determined by the Mathematical Sciences Department)		
MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy for College Students II	
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics	
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra	
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II	
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning <sup>1</sup>	
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning	
MATH 116	College Algebra	
Or equivalent course		
<i>Part B</i>		
Course designated as QL-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement		
<b>Arts</b>		
Select 3 credits		3
<b>Humanities</b>		
Select 6 credits		6
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
Select 6 credits		6
<b>Natural Sciences</b>		
Select 6 credits (at least two courses including one lab)		6
<b>UWM Foreign Language Requirement</b>		
Complete Foreign Language Requirement through:		
Two years (high school) of a single foreign language		
Two semesters (college) of a single foreign language		
Or equivalent		
<b>UWM Cultural Diversity Requirement</b>		
One course from the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences must also satisfy UWM's Cultural Diversity requirement		

<sup>1</sup> Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

## College of Letters & Science Requirements

### I. English Composition Requirement

Students must satisfy the English Composition Requirement with one of the following options:

- 1) Completing ENGLISH 102 with a grade of C or higher; or
- 2) by placing beyond ENGLISH 102 on the English Placement Test (EPT) (or other assessment as determined by the English Department); or
- 3) transferring a course of at least 2.5 equivalent credits from another institution that is equivalent to English 102, or a UWM higher-level expository writing course, with a grade of C or higher.

**Note:** This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part A. The College of Letters & Science does not have a specific requirement for a writing course beyond English 102, but students must complete the university-wide requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part B listed above.

### II. Mathematics and Formal Reasoning

To satisfy the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning Requirement, students must satisfy the following two requirements:

1. Achieve a placement code of at least 30 on the mathematics placement test (or other appropriate test, as determined by the Mathematical Sciences Department) or earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course:

Code	Title	Credits
MATH 102	Mathematical Literacy for College Students II	3
MATH 103	Contemporary Applications of Mathematics	3
MATH 105	Introduction to College Algebra	3
MATH 108	Algebraic Literacy II	3
MATH 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning <sup>1</sup>	3
or PHILOS 111	Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning	
MATH 116	College Algebra	3
MATH 175	Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I	3

<sup>1</sup> Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

**Note:** This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part A, listed above.

2. Complete one course (at least 3 credits) at the 200 level or above chosen from courses in Mathematics, PHILOS 211, or Letters and Science statistics courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Complete one of the following:		
3 or more credits in any 200-level or above Math course		

AFRIC 220	Introduction to Statistics in African and African Diaspora Studies
ANTHRO 568	Introduction to Anthropological Statistics
ATM SCI 500	Statistical Methods in Atmospheric Sciences
BIO SCI 465	Biostatistics
ECON 210	Economic Statistics
GEOG 247	Quantitative Analysis in Geography
HIST 595	The Quantitative Analysis of Historical Data
MTHSTAT 215	Elementary Statistical Analysis
PHILOS 211	Elementary Logic
POL SCI 390	Political Data Analysis
POL SCI 392	Survey Research
PSYCH 210	Psychological Statistics
SOCIOL 261	Introduction to Statistical Thinking in Sociology

**Note:** This requirement is NOT the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part B. To complete the BA, students must take one of the L&S approved courses. **Not all of the courses listed here will satisfy the QL-B requirement.**

### III. Foreign Language Requirement

Placement testing may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work.

Completion of the L&S Language Requirement also satisfies the university-wide Foreign Language GER, but not vice versa.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		
0-18		
Successful completion of the 4th semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language)		
Successful completion of the 3rd semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language) PLUS the 2nd semester of college work or equivalent in another language other than English (including American Sign Language)		

### IV. International Requirement

See Approved Courses for the L&S International Requirement (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement/>) for course options.

Code	Title	Credits
Completed in one of the following ways:		
9		
Complete 3 courses (min. 9 cr) in a single foreign language (not including literature-in-translation or American Sign Language) at the 3rd semester level and above		
Complete 3 non-language courses (min. 9 credits) with an international content chosen from at least 2 curricular areas.		
Complete 9 credits in combination of the two options above.		

## V. Breadth Requirement

Along with completing the University General Education Requirements of 3 credits in the Arts (A); 6 credits in the Humanities (HU), Social Sciences (SS), and Natural Sciences (NS/NS+); and a course with the Cultural Diversity (CD/+) designation, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Arts</b>		
Select 3 credits		3
<b>Humanities</b>		
Complete 12 credits of L&S courses with Humanities Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single subject area. *		12
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Social Science Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. *		12
<b>Natural Sciences</b>		
Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Natural Sciences Breadth designation, including at least one laboratory or field course; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area. *		12
<b>Cultural Diversity</b>		
Complete 3 credits in a course with Cultural Diversity (CD) designation. **		3

\* Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/>). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.

\*\* Students are advised to select a course that satisfies the Cultural Diversity requirement as well as a Humanities or Social Science breadth/GER requirement.

## VI. The Major

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Contact your major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

### Research Requirement

Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement/>).

## VII. The Minor

The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work.

## American Indian Studies Major Requirements

The Committee Interdisciplinary Major submajor in American Indian Studies requires completion of 33 credits in approved American Indian Studies and American Indian Studies-related courses. Of these 33 credits, 15 credits in advanced-level courses numbered (300 and above) must be completed in residence at UWM. The College of Letters and Science requires that students earn at least a 2.0 GPA on all credits attempted for the major at UWM. In addition, a 2.0 GPA on all major credits, including any transfer work, is required.

The major curriculum is developed around a core of 15 credits that includes an introduction to the field, two focus courses, and six credits in research and practice. The focus courses are designed to ensure that students accomplish study in major areas related to the experience of American Indian tribal societies and communities. Beyond that, students are encouraged to shape their own programs to meet individual needs and interests through the required field/research capstone project and the selection of elective courses. The capstone research topic will be focused on a student's particular interest area and will begin in the junior year. The project will be approved and supervised by a faculty member who will guide the student's research, service project, or applied project through to formal evaluation by a committee of faculty members. A formal field project paper will be presented to the committee.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
AIS 101	Introduction to American Indian Studies	3
AIS 600	Field Project - Capstone Research or Applied Project	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Select 27 credits (see below)		27
Total Credits		33

## Electives

Code	Title	Credits
<b>American Indian Studies</b>		
AIS 105	Anishinaabe Ethnobotany: Plants in Anishinaabe Culture	3
AIS 106	Anishinaabe Ethnobotany: Plants in Anishinaabe Philosophy	3
AIS 151		4
AIS 152		4
AIS 203	Western Great Lakes American Indian Community Life of the Past	3
AIS 251	Third Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe)	4
AIS 252	Fourth Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe)	4
AIS 360	Ezhi-Kinomaageying: Anishinaabe Curriculum	3
AIS 370	Anishinaabebiiige: Archival to Contemporary Writing	3

### Jointly Offered

AIS/HIST 262	North American Indian History to 1887	3
AIS/HIST 263	North American Indian History Since 1887	3

AIS/ENGLISH 276	Introduction to American Indian Literature:	3
AIS/ANTHRO 308	Archaeology of North America	3
AIS/ANTHRO 310	Archaeology of Middle America	3
AIS/ANTHRO 311	The World of the Ancient Maya	3
AIS/ANTHRO 314	American Indian Societies and Cultures	3
AIS/SOCIOL 320		3
AIS/SOCIOL 321	Contemporary Issues of the American Indian	3
AIS/ANTHRO 362	System Failure: Globalization and Language Extinction	3
AIS/ENGLISH 372	Survey of American Indian Literature	3
AIS/HIST 473	History of Wisconsin Indians	3
AIS/HIST 474	Topics in North American Indian History:	3
AIS/HIST 475	American Indian History, Law, and Government	3
AIS/ENGLISH 520	Studies in American Indian Literature:	3
AIS/ENGLISH 632	Seminar in American Indian Literature:	3
<b>Cross-Listed</b>		
ANTHRO 213	American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin	3

## Letters & Science Advising

The College of Letters and Science provides general academic advising for all students with a major in the College, particularly as it relates to campus' general education requirements and the College's degree requirements. We also provide specialized advising for pre-professional students (pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, etc.) regardless if their major is in Letters and Science or not. Prospective students, including high school students and students seeking to transfer to a program in Letters and Science may also receive advising from our admissions counselors.

Upon admission, students are assigned an advisor in the College advising office. Academic advising is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Appointments outside of these times may be available and phone appointments are available for online students. The advising office (<https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/contact-advising/>) is located on the first floor of Holton Hall. Current students should call (414) 229-4654 to schedule an appointment or use the Navigate website (<https://uwmilwaukee.campus.eab.com>) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor; online scheduling is only available if you already have a Letters & Science advisor assigned to you. Prospective students should call (414) 229-7711 or email [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu).

When students declare a major, they will receive an additional faculty advisor located within the major department who will assist with requirements for that major. Students should read the "Declaration of Major" information on the website of the major that they are interested in. In some cases, the student will need to choose a faculty advisor as part of the declaration process.

All students are cautioned to consult their Letters & Science academic advisor AND their major advisor prior to each registration period to ensure they understand all requirements. Do not rely on pre-printed sample plans, as they are intended to be samples only and may not be right for your particular situation.

## Honors in the College of Letters and Science

### Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

### Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college/>) section of this site.

### Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

### Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

### Contact Information

Current Students contact Associate Professor Michael Wilson, [michael@uwm.edu](mailto:michael@uwm.edu)  
Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at (414) 229-7711 or [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu)

<https://uwm.edu/american-indian-studies/undergraduate/>