Native American Studies (NAMS)

NAMS 200 INTRO TO NATIVE AMERICANS (3)
A survey of the various geographical environments of tribes living in North America. The emphasis is upon precontact cultures, but includes cultural and historical changes to tribes during the settling of this country by Europeans. Satisfies GE category D1 (Individual and Society), and the ethnic studies requirement.

NAMS 205 INTRO TO NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS (3)
A general introduction of the traditional American Indian arts in the United States. The course will include information on the culture that produced the art forms. Craft projects or research paper by the student will be a part of the class requirements. Satisfies GE, category C1 (Fine Arts), and the ethnic studies requirement.

NAMS 300 EXPERIMENTAL COURSES (1-4)
Content varies from semester to semester. The majority of these courses are designed as short-term field excursions into various areas of the country where American Indians lived or are living.

NAMS 305 NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY (4)
A survey-lecture course. It will chronologically follow the economic, military, social, and legal relationships between North American Indians and Euro-American colonists. Special emphasis will be placed on the relations with the federal and state governments from the Colonial period to the 20th Century.

NAMS 338 NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE CINEMA (3)
This course examines and critiques the depiction of Native Americans in American cinema, video, and documentary films. These media efforts are analyzed through an exploration of stereotypes, literature, and other popular influences found in American society. Documentary films by non-Indian and Native American film makers will be examined and analyzed. Satisfies GE, category C1 (Fine Arts), and the ethnic studies requirement.

NAMS 346 PHILOSOPHIC SYSTEMS AND SACRED MOVEMENTS IN NATIVE NORTH AMERICA (3)
Only by common participation in religious cults and philosophic systems have the separate Indian tribes of North America ever united. This proposition will be critically examined by analysis of prehistoric and contemporary American Indian religious movements and philosophic systems. Precontact native religious systems will be surveyed. Archaeoastronomy and native art forms will be investigated as expressions of religious activities. Postcontact religious reorganization such as the ghost dance will be studied. Satisfies GE, category C3 (Philosophy and Values), and the ethnic studies requirement.

NAMS 354 NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURES (3)
A discussion of traditional myths and songs as well as contemporary literary works of Native Americans. Satisfies GE, category C2 (World Literature), and the ethnic studies requirement.

NAMS 399 SELECTED TOPICS (1-3)
This student-instructed course is offered periodically on various Native American subjects. The course is offered when instructors are available with unique knowledge and skill not available through the regular faculty.

NAMS 400 SPECIAL TOPICS (1-4)
Special topics courses in Native American studies are offered occasionally, depending on student interests and faculty availability. Typically, courses might be Native American Law, Health Issues in the Native American Community, and Native American Tribal Government.

NAMS 410 SEMINAR IN INDIVIDUAL NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE (4)
An in-depth focus on the cultural experience of an individual Native American people.