

Program Assessment Plan

Bachelor's in Indigenous Studies,

Updated 10/24/23

Overview:

The Indigenous Studies Bachelor of Arts is geared towards meeting critical needs in Alaska in the fields of Alaska Native Languages, Alaska Native Arts, and Alaska Native Governance. A student of languages is preparing themselves for work as a language teacher, program administrator, or archivist; a student of arts is preparing themselves for work as a professional artist, scholar of the arts, or a curator; and a student of governance is preparing themselves for work as a board member, employee, or administrator of Alaska Native and affiliate organizations.

Program Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who complete the Indigenous Studies Bachelor of Arts degree fulfill program objectives by demonstrating the ability to:

1	Navigate the interconnected social and economic structures of Alaska Native languages, organizations, histories, and peoples with a strong grounding in the complexities of colonization and assimilation efforts.
2	Advocate for reduction of institutional racism and Indigenous inclusion with foundational knowledge in the topics of Alaska Native histories, oral literatures, self-governance, subsistence, ANCSA, systemic exclusion, genocide, language revitalization, education, and the Alaska Native fight for civil rights.
3	Integrate knowledge of the fundamental interrelationships of Indigenous arts, languages, philosophies, and cultural traditions in workplaces, education, and areas of local, regional, and state governance.
4	Demonstrate basic comprehension and speaking skills in an Alaska Native language.

Students who complete the Alaska Native Arts Emphasis degree fulfill program objectives by demonstrating the ability to:

1	Identify and explain regional differences and similarities within the Northwest coastal peoples and place them in proper historical context when examining historical and current Northwest Coast visual, performing, and literary arts.
2	Demonstrate competencies in a form of Alaska Native visual, performing, or literary arts and identify the qualities that show mastery in the art forms based on intensive study of masterpieces of Northwest Coast Indigenous arts.

3	Develop comprehensive artist portfolios and statements that allow for professional interaction with galleries, museums, funding agencies, and other artists.
4	Describe historical periods of Alaska Native arts and the effects that colonialism and decolonial activities have had on the development of visual, literary, and performative Northwest Coast arts.

Students who complete the Alaska Native Languages Emphasis degree fulfill program objectives by demonstrating the ability to:

1	Identify and explain the historical differences and interconnectedness of the Indigenous languages of Alaska, which lends to a stronger understanding of how ANCSA regions were developed and how language revitalization strategies can be implemented at the micro, meso, and macro levels.
2	Engage in language revitalization policy and planning activities that contribute to the development and maintenance of Indigenous language schools and programs, including teaching in English-medium environments, speaking and teaching in Indigenous language immersion environments, and operating Indigenous language medium schools.
3	Understand and integrate a wide variety of language teaching methodologies that are designed to promote language use and task-based learning, and to articulate how those methodologies and classroom management philosophies construct individual and programmatic pedagogy.
4	Implement social changes at the micro, meso, and macro level that contribute to ensuring that speakers of Indigenous languages are protected, new speakers are created, and the language is a language of power and use.

Students who complete the Alaska Native Governance Emphasis degree fulfill program objectives by demonstrating the ability to:

1	Apply theories of decolonization and equity to systems of governance and education in efforts to fortify the sovereignty of Alaska Native Tribes and the fiscal sovereignty of Alaska Native Corporations.
2	Articulate the cultural, social, linguistic, and economic impacts of Federal Indian Law in regards to Native American populations, with specific focuses on the unique situations of Alaska Native Tribes, ANCSA Corporations, Heritage Nonprofits, and Consortia.
3	Clearly define the status of Federally Recognized Tribes in regards to federal compacting and contracting, and how that affects the ability to self-govern.
4	Contribute to the capacity of Alaska Native organizations through Indigenous-centered governance, economic development, land stewardship, and responsibilities to culture and language.

Assessment of Program Student Learning Outcomes:

1	Student self-report of academic, personal, and professional goals at mid-program after completion of ANS S101, ART S263, ANS S 460, 1 year of AKL.
2	Student self-evaluation of academic, personal, and professional accomplishments completed at program's end.
3	Faculty evaluation of each student's culminating project in relation to program learning outcomes (scoring rubric and narrative evaluation).
4	Written and oral exit interviews with graduates to gather information about each student's academic course of study, future career and study plans, demographic data, and program satisfaction.
5	Annual discussion and comprehensive five-year program review of assessment materials by the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Alaska Native Education.

Development of Future Plans:

As a new program, faculty and co-coordinators will meet regularly to discuss program learning outcomes, course learning outcomes, course descriptions, and student advising questions throughout the academic year.