Undergraduate students at Brown University can declare a concentration in Critical Native American and Indigenous Studies, an interdisciplinary concentration offered through the American Studies department and focused on the study of indigeneity within contemporary U.S. borders, extending across the Americas to Oceania and to other parts of the world.

The concentration also builds on Brown University’s history of engagement with critical theory, studies and pedagogy, and with topics such as social justice, inequality, power structures and structural violence. Courses, research projects and engagement opportunities seek to move students, faculty and researchers toward learning how to center Native American and Indigenous peoples, knowledges, perspectives and cultures while simultaneously engaging in the constructive critique of Native American and Indigenous Studies to further its development in the academy and as a mechanism to respond to the needs of Native and Indigenous peoples today.

The Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative (NAISI) at Brown University is a cross-disciplinary initiative focused on teaching, research, and engagement to increase understanding of the cultural traditions, histories, political experiences, and contemporary experiences and knowledges of Native American and Indigenous peoples.

NAISI currently includes administrative staff plus visiting instructors and faculty affiliated with departments across the University. Courses offered by NAISI-affiliated faculty explore a wide array of topics connected to Native American and Indigenous peoples. View the list of courses offered and the various interests of our affiliated faculty on our website and follow our events calendar and social media to stay connected.
SAMPLE COURSE OFFERINGS

ANTH 1125
Indigenous Archaeologies

NAIS 0100
Learning Our Native Languages

IAPA 1403
Development’s Visual Imaginaries: Still and Moving Images That Shaped the Field

HIST 0233
Colonial Latin America

ANTH 1622
Archaeology of Settler Colonialism

NAIS 1100
Federal Indian Law: Native Nations, Resistance, and Indigenous Rights

View the full list of current and past course offerings on our website!

ELEMENTS OF THE CONCENTRATION

1. ETHN 1200K Introduction to American Indian Studies
2. Four courses at the 1000-level related to a focus area of study
3. Four Elective Courses from across the Concentration Breadth Areas:
   - Creative Expressions
   - History, Politics & Policy Issues
   - Language & Identity
   - Systems of Knowledge & Belief

4. NAIS 1900 Critical NAIS Capstone Course

Visit brown.edu/undergraduate-programs for an introduction to the Critical NAIS concentration