American Indian Studies

San Jacinto Campus
(951) 487-MSJC (6752)
1-800-624-5561
Pamela Ford (951) 487-3725
pford@msjc.edu

Menifee Valley Campus
(951) 672-MSJC (6752)
1-800-452-3335
Erik Ozolins (951) 639-5725
eozolins@msjc.edu

Degree(s)
Transfer:
A.A. in American Indian Studies 30315 AA.AIS.OPTB or 30315 AA.AIS.OPTC (with Transfer Emphasis using General Education Requirements Option B or C)

See Also:
A.A. in Liberal Arts - Social & Behavioral Sciences Emphasis

Non-Transfer:
None

See:
A.A. in Social/Behavioral Science
A.S. in Science

Certificate(s)
None

Employment Concentration Certificate(s)
None

Program Description

The scope of the American Indian Studies transfer program includes Native American Literature, regional studies in American Indian culture, Cultural and Physical Anthropology. Elective courses allow students to follow interests by region or by time period, as well as to examine language in relation to culture. All courses selected for this major will enable a student to understand and communicate the depth and complexity of Native American issues in society today.

American Indian Studies courses provide students with an ability to examine issues affecting Native American populations today, tomorrow and in the past. These courses offer students an opportunity to learn about American Indian culture in an academic setting in which stereotypes and shallow interpretations of culture and history are not the norm. All courses offered for this major seek to stretch students’ abilities to think critically and carefully examine primary sources of information.

The core and elective courses provide grounding in knowledge about cultural and genetic diversity, about various life ways, and about American Indian heritage. The articulated transfer major is intended to enhance student progress toward bachelor programs in American Indian Studies. Courses in the program are selected to prepare students for transfer successfully to four-year colleges.

Career Opportunities

Transfer A.A. Degree(s)

For any BA/BS careers, please see your transfer institution.

Transfer Preparation

MSJC offers a range of course work to prepare students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. All four-year institutions prescribe their own standards for course evaluation and admissions. Prospective transfer students are advised to research careers, degrees and majors in the Career/Transfer Center, access www.assist.org, review the MSJC catalog and meet with a counselor to expedite their transfer plan.

Learning Outcomes

- Evaluate the complex interrelationship between individual American Indian cultures and the history of invasion, immigration and settlement by others in North and South America.
- Analyze the interrelationship between human societies and their physical environment.
- Apply the principles of cultural relativism to observations of human behavior.
- Recognize the validity of people’s variable language histories and experiences.
- Be able to recognize the value of the archaeological & historical records.
- Utilize the scientific method in observations of human attributes (biology, behavior, language, artifacts).
- Analyze the interrelationship between the history, beliefs, and cultural distinctions as they are depicted in oral and written literatures.
DEGREE

An Associate in Arts (AA) degree in American Indian Studies prepares students for transfer to four-year colleges offering a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in American Indian Studies or related fields. The major requirement for an AA in American Indian Studies may be met by completing the pattern described below plus all MSJC General Education Option B (CSU-GE breadth) and/or Option C (IGETC) requirements.

A.A. in American Indian Studies (18 units)

**Required Courses (12 units)**

- ANTH-101 Physical Anthropology 3 units
  - or
- ANTH-101H Honors Physical Anthropology 3 units
- ANTH-102 Cultural Anthropology 3 units
  - or
- ANTH-102H Honors Cultural Anthropology 3 units
- ANTH-103A North American Indians 3 units
- ENGL-240 American Indian Literature 3 units
  - or
- ENGL-240H Honors American Indian Literature 3 units

**Elective Courses (6 units)**

- ANTH-103B Northwest Coast Indian Cultures 3 units
- ANTH-103D Latin American Cultures 3 units
- ANTH-121/HIST-121 California Indians 3 units
- ANTH-125 Magic, Witchcraft and Religion 3 units
- ANTH-145 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 3 units
  - or
- ANTH-145H Honors Introduction to Language and Linguistics 3 units
- COMM-108 Intercultural Communication 3 units
  - or
- COMM-108H Honors Intercultural Communication 3 units
- HIST-150 Race and Ethnicity in U.S. History 3 units
  - or
- HIST-150H Honors Race and Ethnicity in U.S. History 3 units
- PS-103 Ethnic Politics in America 3 units
  - or
- PS-103H Honors Ethnic Politics in America 3 units
- SOCI-106 Intercultural Relations 3 units

Honors course may be acceptable in lieu of regular course, check transfer institution or www.assist.org.

Additional major preparation or elective courses may be required by each university or to meet the 60 semester units required for the UC, CSU and Associate degree. These units must be transferable to the CSU and or UC for appropriate credit. Please see a counselor for details. Up to 12 units may be double counted on the CSU GE option B pattern.