



NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

COLLEGE. CREDENTIAL. CAREER.



Tribal Colleges Build Community

Native American studies is a field grounded in Indigenous knowledge, community engagement, and the pursuit of justice, sovereignty, and cultural continuity. Rooted in respect for the histories, languages, and worldviews of Native peoples, this area of study prepares students to support Indigenous self-determination and contribute meaningfully to a range of careers.

Graduates often work in fields like tribal governance, language revitalization, cultural resource management, education, museum and archival work, public policy, and community development. Whether it's teaching the language, developing Indigenous-centered curriculum, shaping tribal law, or advocating for policy rooted in treaty rights and trust responsibility, professionals in this field honor deep cultural connections and advance Indigenous futures.

This path is well-suited for those committed to working in solidarity with Native communities—whether as community members themselves or as respectful collaborators. It calls for strong communication, critical thinking, and a deep understanding of Indigenous experiences, both historical and contemporary. With a degree in Native American studies, students are equipped to lead, serve, and innovate across sectors—with purpose, cultural grounding, and responsibility.

Associates degrees centering Native American studies are available at all 3 of Michigan's Tribal Colleges which are open to all students. These programs provide a foundation for a multitude of career pathways either at the associates or built upon through the completion of a bachelor's or graduate degree.

Cool Classes You Can Take

Tribal Government and Law

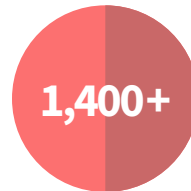
Examination of the changing nature of tribal governments and the evolution of tribal-federal, tribal-state, and inter-tribal relationships.

Ojibwa Language and Culture

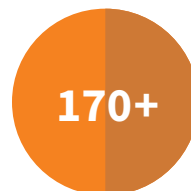
Introduction to Ojibwa language, customs and traditions. Designed to acquaint students with basic Ojibwa grammar, vocabulary and idioms while presenting an overview of historic and contemporary Ojibwa lifestyles.

Financial Help

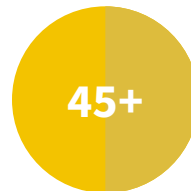
There are many federal grants, work-study funds, and low-interest loans available to help students cover the costs of tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and other college-related expenses. The first step in securing necessary financial aid is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).



Students enrolled in Michigan Tribal Colleges



Credential completions



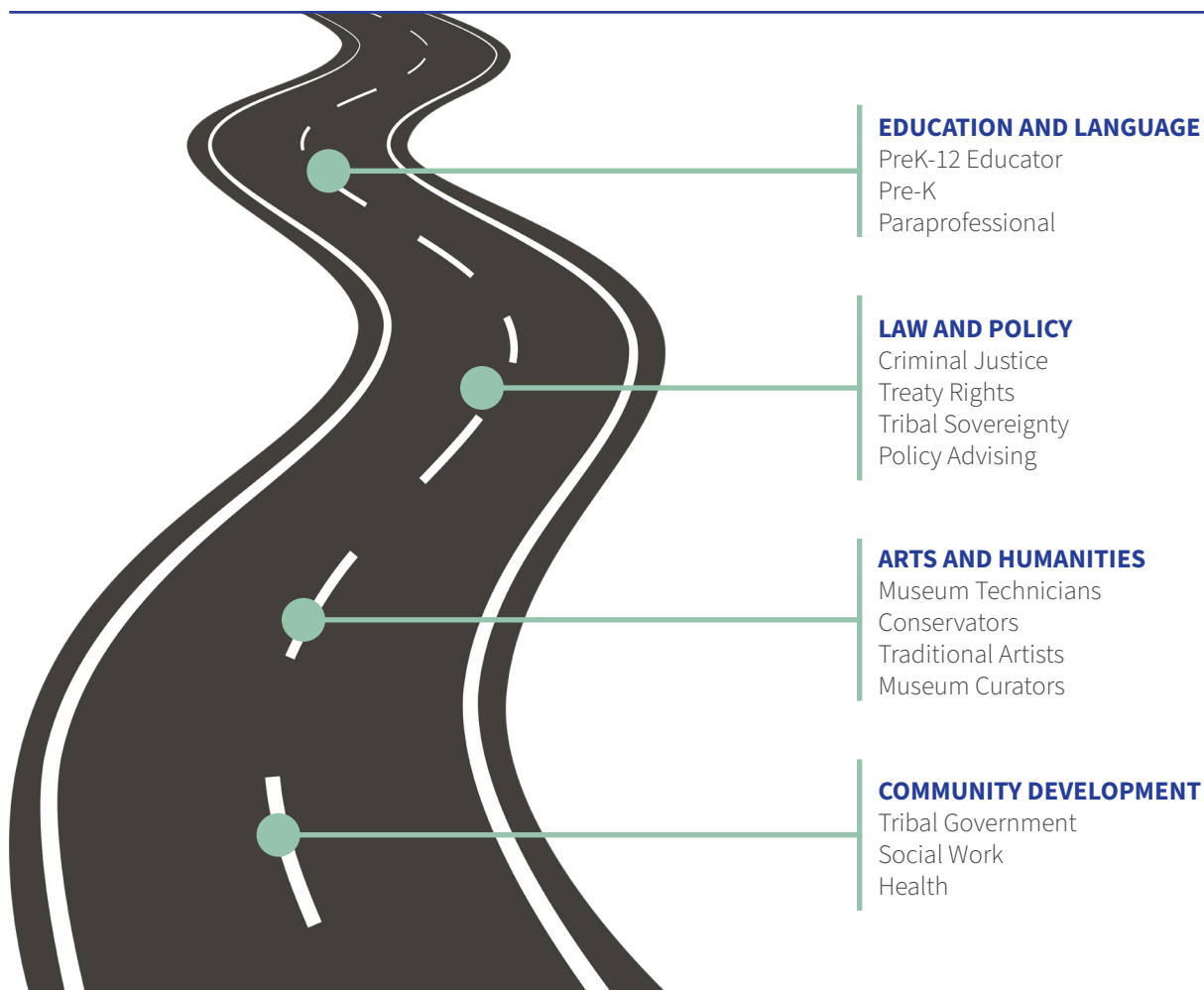
Programs offered



Some Available Programs:

- Tribal Colleges
 - Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
 - Bay Mills Community College
 - Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College
- 4 Year Public
 - University of Michigan Ann Arbor
 - Michigan State University
 - Northern Michigan University
 - Central Michigan University
 - Western Michigan University

There are many different education and career paths in **NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES**. Here are a few you might follow after graduating from high school.



WHERE

College refers to an educational institution or establishment that provides education beyond high school and/or specialized professional training that is credit bearing.

WHAT

A **credential** verifies an individual's qualification or competence in a particular area and is usually issued by colleges in the form of certificates and academic degrees.

WHY

A **career** is a series of jobs that offers opportunities for advancement and provides a path to economic independence.

WHEN

Now! Don't wait to go to **college** to earn a **credential** that leads not only to your first job but also to a full and rewarding **career**!



To learn more about this pathway, check out the video at roadmap2opportunity.org.

All occupational information provided by Roadmap to Opportunity is from O*NET Online and is available at onetonline.org.