



Native Studies is an academic discipline designed to provide both Native and non-Native students with an opportunity to explore the cultural, historical, and contemporary situation of Native people of North America. The Native Studies program offers students core courses in Native Studies with interdisciplinary course offerings.



Students majoring in Native Studies are required to complete a minimum of 36 credit hours in Native Studies, including the following courses:

- NATI 1006 Introduction to Native Studies
- NATI 2503 Research Strategies in Native Studies
- NATI 3203 Native Philosophy
- NATI 3603 Native People and the Colonial Experience
- NATI 3903 Native People and the Law

In addition to the number of courses offered by Native Studies, courses may also be drawn from the cross-listed course offerings and the University of New Brunswick with permission from the Chair of Native Studies.

Courses without formal prerequisites and numbered in the 2000 or 3000-range are intended for students who have completed 30 credit hours of courses at the 1000-level. While not always a formal prerequisite, students are strongly encouraged to take NATI-1006 prior to taking a course at the 2000- or 3000-level. Assistance in planning a course of studies for the Major in Native Studies is available through the Chair of Native Studies.

An 18 credit hours in Native Studies is sufficient to constitute a Minor in Native Studies.



Students interested in an honours degree in Native Studies should inform the Chair of the Native Studies Department by the beginning of their third year, and, in consultation with their thesis supervisor, submit a thesis proposal by the end of their third year. Entrance to the Native Studies Honours Program normally requires a 3.3 GPA in Native Studies courses and a 3.0 GPA in all other courses. Students who do not meet the GPA requirements can appeal and have a departmental evaluation. The department would consider extenuating circumstances as well as substantial improvement in student performance.

Completion Requirements

Completion of an honours degree in Native Studies requires students to complete 54 credit hours in Native Studies or cross-listed courses. In addition to completing the required courses for a Major in Native Studies (with a minimum of 36 credit hours), students are required to complete the Advanced Research Methods course (NATI 3503) and the 6 credit Honours thesis, and at least one course from each of the three subsections below (for a total minimum of 54 credit hours):

NATI-3313. Contemporary Issues in Native/Non-Native Relations

The course will examine social, political, and legal issues in the relations between Aboriginal and Immigrant societies in North America. Discussion will include theoretical approaches and the conflict between theory and reality.

NATI-3403. Special Topics

This course is directed primarily at upper-level students majoring in Native Studies, and other students seeking to understand and work with Native communities. The specific topic of the course will vary from year to year. Topics such as Native Systems of Law, Oral Traditions, Racism, and Native Health Care may be the focus in a particular year. Students will be expected to do library and/or field research, and to present and defend the results of their study in class.

NATI-3416. Topics in Native Studies

This course is directed primarily at upper-level students majoring in Native Studies, and other students seeking to understand and work with Native communities. The specific topic of the course will vary from year to year. Topics such as Native Systems of Law, Oral Traditions, Racism, and Native Health Care may be the focus in a particular year. Students will be expected to do library and/or field research, and to present and defend the results of their study in class.

NATI-3446. Topics in Native Studies

This course is directed primarily at upper-level students majoring in Native Studies, and other students seeking to understand and work with Native communities. The specific topic of the course will vary from year to year. Topics such as Native Systems of Law, Oral Traditions, Racism, and Native Health Care may be the focus in a particular year. Students will be expected to do library and/or field research, and to present and defend the results of their study in class.

NATI-3503. Advanced Research Strategies in Native Studies

This course will examine advanced research methods of particular use in research with indigenous populations. Both qualitative and quantitative methods will be covered, although one or the other may be emphasized in a particular semester. Prerequisite: NATI 2503 Research Strategies in Native Studies.

NATI-3603. Native People and the Colonial Experience

This course will look at colonialism as a strategy of imperialism and as a model for understanding North American Native history. Different types of colonialism will be explored, i.e. classic, internal, and neocolonialism, and an emphasis will be placed on the historical and continuing impact of colonialism on Indigenous peoples and cultures of North America. The course will also analyze the Christian missions, the fur trade, and colonial government policies, as well as exploitation, racism, war, indoctrination, genocide, and cultural appropriation as manifestations of colonialism. Responses to colonialism, including resistance and decolonization, will also be considered. Prerequisite: NATI 1006.

NATI-3613. Native Resistance and Liberation

Focuses on the major historical and contemporary forms of Native resistance to colonization, including violent and non-violent resistance, revitalization movements, and self-determination. Explores liberation theory and its roots in colonial oppression. Analyzes historical and contemporary resistance movements such as the Ghost Dance Movement, the Riel Rebellion, the Shoshone, the confrontations at Wounded Knee and Okaloosa, and the movement for decolo-

ning through self-determination. Prerequisite: NATI 3603 or by special permission of the instructor.

NATI-3623. Native Education and Colonization

This course will examine traditional forms and philosophies of education in Native societies, and the changes that have occurred since contact and colonization. It will also examine the formal education of Natives by the immigrant societies indoctrination for civilization and assimilation. It will look closely at residential and day schools in Canada and the United States and the effect they have had on contemporary Native societies and cultures. Special attention will be given to the relationship between education and cultural survival, and the importance for Native people to reclaim and control the education of their children. Prerequisite: NATI 3603 or permission of the instructor.

NATI-3633. Maliseet/Passamaquoddy History

This course will explore the cultural, social, and political past of the Maliseet/Passamaquoddy People through archeological, oral, visual, and material documentation, as well as primary and secondary written sources. Particular emphasis will be placed on understanding the

NATI-3803. Indigenous Cultures and Immigrant Ethnic Minorities

This course examines the different situations and conditions of Indigenous cultures and immigrant ethnic minorities in Canada and the treatment of each by different levels of government. Special attention is given to attitudes, perceptions, and the idea of multiculturalism. Emphasis is the importance of power variables in the examination of immigrant and Indigenous relations in Canadian society. Also examines how immigrant ethnic minorities often form coalitions becoming the dominant culture subordinating Indigenous cultures. Prerequisite: NATI 1006 or SOCI 1006.

NATI-3813. Native Cultural Identity and Cultural Survival (HMRT)

Considers cultural identity and survival within the context of inequality (power, wealth and status). Focuses on the ways in which Native language, group solidarity and community cultural completeness, acting as barriers to assimilation. Historic and contemporary Native cultures are presented as dynamic and flexible. Prerequisite NATI 1006 or SOCI 1006.

NATI-3823. Native Peoples and the Canadian Form of Racism (HMRT)

The indigenous peoples of Canada are often included as an afterthought in academic works on racism, which tend to focus on Black-White relations. However, rather than being marginal to understanding the issues of race and racism, the early encounters between European and Native Americans are central to its proper understanding. The issues which arose from Columbus' explorations remain as central to understanding modern racism as the were to the creation of racist ideology in the first place, and the treatment of indigenous peoples in Canada today is shown to be a direct intellectual descendent of the material need to deny the humanity of other human beings.

NATI-3843. Suicide and Indigenous Peoples

Suicide is, and has been for nobody knows how long, rampant in indigenous populations in Canada. Despite well-publicized projects targeting specific communities, none of the interventions have been able to demonstrate a positive effect; if anything, the problem continues to worsen. We examine critically the field of suicidology as it applies to the Native Peoples of Canada and suggest reasons where efforts to prevent suicide have not paid off. We also explore different kinds of interventions that may be more successful.

NATI-3853. Alcohol, Drugs, and Indigenous Peoples

This course provides an introduction to issues of alcohol and drug use/abuse in indigenous communities (concentrating on Canada for the most part, but including reference to such issues in other indigenous communities worldwide). Traditional uses of substances which alter consciousness are reviewed, as well as the role of alcohol in contemporary indigenous societies.

kept out of many sources. The contributions of archaeology, cartography, oral history, and ethnohistory will be considered along with the issues of context, perspective and ethics, in researching and writing First Nations history. Prerequisite: NATI 1006.

NATI-4633. The Archaeology of First Nations History In Canada: Practice

This course is intended to follow NATI 4623 and focus on the period 1900 to the present. Students will be expected to research a particular topic within the context of Canadian history, identify what has been left out, and evaluate why this is likely the case. Students will also learn to access and evaluate a broad variety of sources including archives, oral traditions, and internet sources. The goal will be to develop the capacity for evaluating and reinterpreting standard accounts, and for articulating new understandings. Prerequisite: NATI 4623.

NATI-4996. Honours Thesis

Students are required to complete a thesis proposal preferably by the end of their third year. At the beginning of the second semester of their third year, students should choose a member of the NATI faculty to be their advisor for writing the honours proposals. Advisors will guide the students through the process of developing a workable thesis and building annotated bibliographies on the relevant topics. Students will be asked to formally present their thesis to the Native Studies faculty for discussion and feedback.



Introductory and Foundation Courses

NATI-3473. Theory and Practice in Native Language Immersion Education

This course analyses the research of Drs. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, Jim Cummins and others in language loss, first and second language learning, and immersion education. It focuses also on the strategies, experiences, and educational results of existing Native Language Immersion programs, particularly those of the Haida, Mi'kmaq, Métis, Navajo, Mohawks, Ojibwe, and Inuit. Fluency in Mi'kmaq or Mi'kmaq is not required. Prerequisite: NATI 4123 Native Language Immersion Teaching, or by special permission.

NATI-4123. Introduction to Native Language Immersion Teaching I

This introductory course in immersion teaching focuses on training fluent speakers of Mi'kmaq or Mi'kmaq/Pasquaquod to teach using their own language as the language of instruction. The course surveys research and practice in Native language immersion education and focuses on the development of culturally relevant curriculum and teaching materials for Mi'kmaq and Mi'kmaq/Pasquaquod immersion classrooms. Includes also a linguistic component focusing on structures and concepts in each language. Fluency in Mi'kmaq or Mi'kmaq/Pasquaquod.

Skills Development Courses

NATI-3453. Teaching Adult Immersion

Using research in second-language acquisition, this course identifies specific immersion methods for teaching a Native language as a second language to adults. It emphasizes the oral approach for developing conversational fluency and considers means for assessing students, establishing appropriate goals, and evaluating learning in basic conversation. Fluency in Mi'kmaq or Mi'kmaq is required. Prerequisite: NATI 4123 Native Language Immersion Teaching, or by special permission.

NATI-3463. Immersion for Kindergarten

This course focuses on strategies for teaching all subject areas in the mother-tongue, particularly to children who come from English-speaking homes. It pays particular attention to methods for achieving fluency, with special attention to teaching pre-primer literacy and numeracy skills. The course will also consider culturally appropriate teaching styles and curriculum planning, in relation to the physical, social, and emotional development of the kindergarten child. Prerequisite: NATI 4123 Native Language Immersion Teaching, or by special permission.

NATI-3113. Conversational Maliseet/Passamaquoddy

This course emphasizes using all forms taught in Intermediate Mi'kmāq. Class will be conducted as an immersion class, and oral traditions of storytelling and public speaking will be featured. Prerequisite: Intermediate Maliseet NATI 2113 or basic fluency in Maliseet.

NATI-4006. Structure of Native Languages

This course examines the structure of Mi'kmāq and Maliseet from a linguistic and literary perspective. What are the significant features of these languages, and how do they determine the unique cultural outlook of those who speak them? Students explore the structure of Mi'kmāq and Maliseet and examine the differences between these languages and English. The course will also look at problems of translation, and the criteria and methods for the production of texts and other materials in Native language. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor. Consideration will be given to the student's level of competence in speaking and understanding the Mi'kmāq or Maliseet language.

NATI-4213. Morphology in the Target Language I

Morphology is the description of grammatical forms in a language. As such this course studies the internal structure of words. It looks especially at the smallest units which have the ability to change meaning in a word, and defines the grammatical rules that apply. Prerequisite: NATI 2103, Intermediate Mi'kmāq, or NATI 2113, Intermediate Maliseet/Passamaquoddy, or the equivalent, or fluency in the language.

NATI-4223. Phonology in the Target Language I

Phonology is the study of general phonetics in relation to the sounds system of a language. Focusing on the target First Nation language it will consider the reproduction of sounds, particular consonants and vowels, and study the various orthographies (writing systems) of the language. Prerequisite: NATI 2103, Intermediate Mi'kmāq, or NATI 2113, Intermediate Maliseet/Passamaquoddy or the equivalent, or fluency in the language.

NATI-4233. Verbs in the Target Language I

This course will analyze verb stems, animate and inanimate, transitive and intransitive verbs, and additional structural elements including person, tense, singular, plural, negative and affirmative, in indicative, conjunct and imperative forms. Prerequisite: NATI 1103, Beginning Mi'kmāq, or NATI 1113, Beginning Maliseet/Passamaquoddy, or the equivalent, or fluency in the language.

NATI-4323. Phonology in the Target Language II

This course is intended primarily for students in an intensive language learning program. It will provide practical experience with elements of Phonology in the Target Language I, with special emphasis on reading and writing. Pre-requisites are NATI 4223 Phonology in the Target Language I.

NATI-4253. Advanced Maliseet/Passamaquoddy I

This course focuses on the grammatical patterns and processes in the Maliseet/Passamaquoddy language, and how they are put into use in comprehension and conversation. Pitch accent and advanced verb forms such as relative, subordinative, inverse, indefinite subject, conjunct and obviation will be considered. Prerequisites: Either NATI 2113 Intermediate Maliseet/Passamaquoddy, or NATI 3113 Conversational Maliseet, or the equivalent.

NATI-4263. Verbs in The Target Language II

This course builds on knowledge of verb forms taught in NATI-4233 and introduces more complex forms such as the true plural, changed and unchanged conjunct, inverse forms,

Cross-Listed Courses

ANTH 2313	Archaeology of Early Societies The Americas
ANTH 2013-2153	Area Ethnography
HMRT 1003	Introduction to Human Rights
POLS 3503	Human Rights in International Relations and Foreign Policy
RELG 3473	Native American Religions
RELG 3483	Mikmaq and Maliseet Religions
SOCI 2013	Research Design & Method
SOCI 2023	Understanding Statistics

NOTE: Not all courses are available every semester. Please consult the current course catalog for more information. Prerequisites are listed in the course descriptions.