American Indian Studies (AIS)

Contact the American Indian Studies Department for further information, (760) 744-1150, ext. 2425. For transfer information, consult a Palomar College counselor.

Associate in Arts degree requirements, Certificate of Achievement requirements, and Certificate of Proficiency requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages) of the catalog.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

American Indian Studies

Provides cultural background and preparation to enhance employment opportunities with American Indian people.

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Program Requirements Units
AIS 100 Introduction to American Indian Studies 3
AIS 101 or The American Indian Frontier 3
AIS 102 Indian/U.S. Political System 3
AIS 125 American Indians Today 3
AIS/ANTH 130 Prehistoric Cultures of North America 3

Electives (Consult with department prior to selection of two additional courses)
AIS 105 History of Native American Arts 3
AIS 110 History of the Plains Indian 3
AIS 115 A History of Southwest Indians 3
AIS 120 Indians of the Americas 3
AIS 135 California Indian Arts 3
AIS/ANTH 140 The Original Californians 3
AIS/FL 141 Elementary Luiseño IA 3
AIS/FL 142 Elementary Luiseño IB 3
AIS/FL 143 Elementary Luiseño IIA 3
AIS/FL 144 Elementary Luiseño IIB 3
AIS 145 American Indian Literature 3
AIS 150 American Indian Philosophy and Religion 3
AIS 151 Elementary Cupéno IA 3
AIS 152 Elementary Cupéno IB 3
AIS 153 Elementary Cupéno IIA 3
AIS 154 Elementary Cupéno IIB 3
AIS 165 Native Women in the Americas 3
AIS 175 American Indian Science and Technology 3

TOTAL UNITS 18

COURSE OFFERINGS

AIS 100 Introduction to American Indian Studies (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
American Indian cultures in North America are studied from early cultures to contemporary society. A cross disciplinary approach examines applicable methods and theories from sciences and humanities.

AIS 101 The American Indian Frontier From Colonialism Through the Present (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: This course plus AIS 102 meets the State requirement in American History and Institutions.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
The historical, economic, and cultural development of the American Indian in relation to European and American contact. Extensive use and analysis of historical sources from the colonial period through the present.

AIS 102 The American Indian and the U.S. Political System (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: This course plus AIS 101 meets the State requirement in American History and Institutions.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC – maximum credit for one course: AIS 102, AIS 110, CS 102

Surveys the role of American Indian people in the U.S. political system and institutions. Includes an examination of American Indian political structures and functions from precontact period to contemporary as well as analysis of Federal Indian policy and leading issues and organizations that affect the American Indian community.

AIS 105 History of Native American Arts (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
An historical survey encompassing North, Meso, and South American Indian arts from pre-Columbian through contemporary periods. American Indian art forms are examined in terms of cultural context, history of styles, and artists.

AIS 110 History of the Plains Indian (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
An analysis of the Plains Indian. Examines lifestyles, mores, traditions, and tactics of war. Attention will be given to relations with the U.S. Government and to the background and evolution of acculturations.

AIS 115 A History of Southwest Indians (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
A history, transculturation, and present culture of the Southwest Indians with emphasis upon their retention of traditional customs.

AIS 120 Indians of the Americas (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
A cross cultural study of American Indian Peoples in South America, Meso America, and North America. Emphasis is placed on the contrast of societies as diverse as Incans, Amazonians, Eskimos, and Mayans.

AIS 125 American Indians Today (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
The development of a greater sensitivity to the American Indian through analysis of ethnocentricism exhibited in contemporary American pluralistic society. This will be done through the analysis of stereotyping, history, cultural practice, and contemporary issues.

AIS 130 Prehistoric Cultures of North America (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: Cross listed as ANTH 130
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Emphasis given to prehistoric cultural traditions of the Eastern Woodlands, Central Plains, and Far Western United States and Canada. Special concern for archaeological problems; reconstruction of these traditions and cultural changes.

AIS 135 California Indian Arts (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Emphasis on the regional styles of California tribal arts with analysis of the social, religious, political, and cultural contributions. A combination of lectures, slides, individual projects, small group discussions, field trips, and guest artists.

AIS 139 Native American Linguistics (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU
This introductory linguistics course will enable the student to create a practical orthography and a basic standardized grammar for an endangered language with no written literary tradition.

AIS 140 The Original Californians (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: Cross listed as ANTH 140
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Native people of California: Their origin, language, arts, customs religion, folklore, and music. Special emphasis on Southern California.

To satisfy a prerequisite, the student must have earned a letter grade of A, B, C or CR in the prerequisite course, unless otherwise stated.
AIS 141  Elementary Luiseño IA  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 141+142 correspond to one year of high school foreign language
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
An introduction to the fundamentals of the Luiseño language, one of the four indigenous languages of San Diego County. This course will include a survey of Luiseño language phonology, morphology, syntax and grammar with special emphasis on culturally relevant terminology.

AIS 142  Elementary Luiseño IB  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 141+142 correspond to one year of high school foreign language
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Review of the phonology, morphology, syntax and grammar of the Luiseño language, with continued emphasis on culturally relevant terminology leading to increased proficiency in expressing basic concepts both orally and in writing.

AIS 143  Elementary Luiseño IIA  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 143 + 144 correspond to two years of high school foreign language
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, review, composition, and continued oral practice.

AIS 144  Elementary Luiseño IIB  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 143 + 144 correspond to two years of high school foreign language
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, review, composition, and continued oral practice.

AIS 145  American Indian Literature  (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
A survey of historical and contemporary American Indian literature. Examines traditional and contemporary genres.

AIS 150  American Indian Philosophy and Religion  (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
The principles of American Indian philosophy and religious rites practiced prior to extensive European contacts with North American tribes, and the subsequent impact of European cultures on American Indian philosophy and religion.

AIS 151  Elementary Cupéño IA  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 151 + 152 correspond to one year of high school foreign language.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, composition, and oral practice.

AIS 152  Elementary Cupéño IB  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 151 + 152 correspond to one year of high school foreign language.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, review, composition, and continued oral practice.

AIS 153  Elementary Cupéño IIA  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 153 + 154 correspond to two years of high school foreign language.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, review, composition, and continued oral practice.

AIS 154  Elementary Cupéño IIB  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: AIS 153 + 154 correspond to two years of high school foreign language.
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Elementary grammar, review, composition, and continued oral practice.

AIS 155  American Indian Community Development  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: May be taken 4 times
Transfer acceptability: CSU
Investigation and analysis of the relationship between the American Indian and the non Indian in contemporary society with special emphasis on fieldwork and research to explore existing programs and to develop solutions to problems originating from these programs.

AIS 160  American Indian Education  (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU
The historical development of American Indian education. Emphasis is placed on traditional philosophies as well as American philosophies as they relate to the educational process of the American Indian.

AIS 161  Elementary Classical Nahuatl  (3)
3 hours lecture
Note: Cross listed as CS 161/FL 161
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
This is an introductory course on the Classical Nahuatl language of the Aztec Empire. Students will acquire a basic knowledge of Nahuatl morphology and syntax.

AIS 165  Native Women in the Americas  (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Social and psychological comparison of the roles of native women in the Americas. Areas of emphasis shall include: kinship, childbearing, leadership, and religious roles. These will be examined in contemporary and traditional settings.

AIS 170  Political/History Problems and Issues of California Indians  (3)
3 hours lecture
Transfer acceptability: CSU; UC
Examines the political structure and functions of American Indians in California as they relate to federal, state, and local governments. Includes analysis of problems and issues relevant to California Indians through an historical, political, and economic framework.

American Sign Language (ASL)
Contact the Speech Communication/Forensics/ASL Department for further information, (760) 744-1150, ext. 2405

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