The American Indian Studies Committee Interdisciplinary Major (CIM) is a program that provides students with a thorough understanding of the Native American tribal nations in North America. All of North America at one time was American Indian land; however most of it was gradually transferred to the United States and Canada. Treaties and other legal agreements with the these nations at various times in our history have given their governments far-reaching authority over Indian people while still recognizing the sovereignty of the more than 565 tribal nations, 12 of which are located in the state of Wisconsin. The roles that American Indians have played in shaping the creation of these nations, as well as their modern sovereign status, make American Indian Studies essential to the understanding of North American society and culture in the twenty-first century.

Students will take classes from a variety of disciplines including anthropology, educational policy and community studies, English, ethnic studies, history, and sociology. Through their AIS coursework, students will establish sensitivity to and enhanced knowledge of the diverse cultures, literature, history, treaty rights, contemporary social issues, and sovereignty of North American Indian tribes.

Why Choose American Indian Studies?
Students from the program often pursue careers in business, education, government, politics, social services, wildlife management, law, healthcare, and law enforcement. Students also might be suitable for positions at programs or institutions located on Indian reservations. Federal agencies such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Services, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forestry Services often seek candidates that have experience with American Indian people and their culture.

Degree Requirements
The CIM submajor in American Indian Studies requires completion of 33 credits in approved American Indian Studies and American Indian Studies-related courses. Of these 33 credits, 15 credits in advanced-level courses (numbered 300 and above) must be completed in residence at UWM. The College of Letters and Science requires that students earn at least a 2.500 GPA on all credits attempted for the major at UWM. In addition, a 2.500 GPA on all major credits, including any transfer work, is required.

Students are encouraged to shape their own programs within the required framework to meet individual needs and interests through the required field/research capstone project and elective options. The capstone research topic will be focused on a student’s particular interest area and will begin in the junior year. The project will be approved and supervised by a faculty member who will guide the student’s research, service project, or applied project through to formal evaluation by a committee of faculty members. A formal field project paper will be presented to the committee.

Required Classes
Introduction:
• AIS 101 – Introduction to American Indian Studies, 3 cr.

Research and Practice:
• AIS 600 – Field Project: Capstone Research or Applied Project, 3 cr.
Elective Courses:
Students must select 27 credits from the following jointly-offered or cross-listed courses:

- AIS 105 – Ethnobotony, 3 cr.
- AIS 151 – First-Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), 4 cr.
- AIS 152 – Second-Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), 4 cr.
- AIS 203 – Western Great Lakes Indian Community Life of the Past, 3 cr.
- AIS 251 – Third-Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), 3 cr.
- AIS 252 – Fourth-Semester Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), 3 cr.
- AIS/Hist 262 – American Indian History to 1887, 3 cr.
- AIS/Hist 263 – American Indian History since 1887, 3 cr.
- AIS/English 276 – Introduction to American Indian Literature, 3 cr.
- AIS/Anthro 308 – Archaeology of North America, 3 cr.
- AIS/Anthro 310 – Archaeology of Middle America, 3 cr.
- AIS/Anthro 311 – The World of the Ancient Maya, 3 cr.
- AIS/Anthro 314 – American Indian Societies and Cultures, 3 cr.
- AIS/Sociol 320 – Social Change in American Indian Societies, 3 cr.
- AIS/Sociol 321 – Contemporary Issues of the American Indian, 3 cr.
- AIS 360 – Ezhi-Kinomaageying: Anishinaabe Curriculum, 3 cr.
- AIS/Anthro/Global 362 – System Failure: Globalization and Language Extinction, 3 cr.
- AIS 370 – Anishinaabebebiige: Archival to Contemporary Writing, 3 cr.
- AIS/English 372 – Survey of American Indian Literature, 3 cr.
- AIS/Hist 473 – History of Wisconsin Indians, 3 cr.
- AIS/Hist 474 – Topics in North American Indian History, 3 cr.
- AIS/English 520 – Studies in American Indian Literature, 3 cr.
- AIS/English 632 Seminar in American Indian Literature: U/G 3 cr
- Anthro 213 – American Indian Peoples of Wisconsin, 3 cr.
- Ed Pol 561 – Education Issues in American Indian Communities, 3 cr.
- Ed Pol 621 – History of Native Education and Policy Development, 3 cr.

Successful students of American Indian Studies tend to share similar qualities. They enjoy reading, writing, and research and have a natural curiosity about other cultures. Regardless of career choice, these students want to be able to view current events with a global perspective and a sensitivity to different cultures.

The American Indian Student Services (AISS) office provides a supportive and caring environment for American Indian students.

Student Services
Students have access to a small lounge area, a study area with computers, and dedicated advisors. AISS regularly co-sponsors cultural and social events and celebrations, including an annual Pow Wow.

There are two features that distinguish UWM’s academic program in American Indian Studies from other AIS programs. The Electa Quinny Institute is a campus resource that facilitates the development of new programs, services, and research opportunities in partnership with the American Indian community. UWM also is home to more American Indian Studies faculty members than any other school in the UW System.

Unique Program Characteristics

Revised 10/15
This sample four-year plan shows just one possible pathway to earning a degree with this major in four years. This plan does not replace the advice of your advisor, and students are cautioned to meet regularly with their advisor to create a personalized plan that matches their particular circumstances. This plan also follows the degree requirements for students who began their UWM education in Fall of 2013 or later. If you started at UWM prior to Fall of 2013, your degree requirements may be different.

### Degree Requirements (brief summary):

1. **English Proficiency and UWM Oral and Written Communication (OWC) GER - English 102 (OWC-A) and one OWC-B course**
2. **Math Proficiency and UWM Quantitative Literacy (QL) GER - Math 102, 103, 105, or 108 (QL-A) and a QL-B course**
3. **Formal Reasoning - 3 credits (Some courses satisfy both formal reasoning and the QL-B GER)**
4. **Foreign Language - 4 semesters of a single Foreign Language (or 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another language)**
5. **L&S Humanities – 12 credits**
6. **L&S Social Sciences – 12 credits**
7. **L&S Natural Science – 12 credits including a laboratory**
8. **L&S International – 9 credits usually accomplished with third and fourth semesters of foreign language and 3 credits in a Humanities or Social Science course**
9. **UWM Arts GER – 3 credits**
10. **UWM Cultural Diversity GER – 3 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with a Humanities or Social Science course**
11. **120 credits including 90 credits in L&S and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses**
12. **Complete the American Indian Studies Committee Interdisciplinary Major requirements. The AIS CIM requires 33 credits, at least 15 of which must be taken at the advanced level (numbered 300 and above) in residence at UWM. The following are required:**
   - AIS 101
   - AIS 600
   - 27 credits selected from approved electives

### Sample Four Year Plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>English 101</td>
<td>AIS 203 (SS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 102, 103, 105 or 108 (QL-A)</td>
<td>English 102 (OWC-A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st semester Foreign Language</td>
<td>2nd semester Foreign Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Humanities, not AIS</td>
<td>L&amp;S Natural Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS 101 (SS and Cultural Diversity)</td>
<td>QL-B course</td>
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<td><strong>Year 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>OWC-B course</td>
<td>Formal Reasoning QL-B course</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd semester Foreign Language (Int’l)</td>
<td>4th semester Foreign Language (Int’l)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hist 262</td>
<td>Hist 263</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Natural Science</td>
<td>L&amp;S Natural Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Humanities, not AIS or English</td>
<td>Arts GER</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS/English (HU)</td>
<td>L&amp;S Social Science/International</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Natural Science with lab</td>
<td>AIS/English 525</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS/ Hist 475</td>
<td>AIS Upper-level</td>
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<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Upper-level Social Science</td>
<td>L&amp;S upper-level</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS/Ed Pol 631</td>
<td>AIS 600</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIS Upper-level course</td>
<td>L&amp;S upper-level</td>
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<td>L&amp;S upper-level</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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(HU) Humanities GER (SS) Social Science GER
(Int’l) International requirement

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements (http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/requirements/), and courses in the major can be used. For example, AIS 276 counts as an elective towards the major, as a cultural diversity GER, and as humanities GER. (This sample assumes no high school Foreign Language was taken and that the student placed into college-level Math and English.)