

# Hmong Diaspora Studies Certificate

## About Hmong Diaspora Studies

The Hmong Diaspora Studies certificate program provides undergraduate students with multidisciplinary perspectives on Hmong history, culture, and contemporary life. Without a nation state of their own, Hmong people live as minorities throughout the world. Outside the U.S., the majority of the Hmong world population is located in southern China. Areas of Hmong settlement also include other parts of Asia, Europe, Oceania, and North and South America. The life experiences of Hmong people differ significantly depending on the social, cultural, economic, and political conditions of specific locations. Consistent with UWM's commitment to preparing students to become well-informed global citizens, the Hmong Diaspora Studies program enables students to compare and contrast the experiences of people of Hmong ethnicity throughout the world.

Wisconsin and the upper Midwest are home to large concentrations of Hmong, making this area of study particularly relevant to UWM students.

## Opportunities

The certificate is open to all students seeking a bachelor's degree from UWM and to students who previously received a bachelor's degree from UWM or any other accredited college or university. The certificate also is open to students who do not plan to pursue a college or university degree (non-degree students) but have a strong interest in Hmong-related topics.

The certificate complements many different types of majors and is valuable especially for individuals who intend to work with the Hmong population. The certificate can enhance the resume of students going into social work, education, the arts, public administration, the legal profession, journalism, international affairs, travel and hospitality, and global business.



UWM offers students a unique opportunity – not many colleges or universities offer a structured program in Hmong studies.

## Certificate Requirements

Eighteen credits are required to complete the certificate. The required classes are:

- Ethnic 265 – Hmong Americans: History, Culture, and Contemporary Life (3 credits)
- One semester of Hmong language and/or demonstrated literacy
- One of the following:
  - » Hist 287 – The Vietnam War (3 credits)
  - » Hist 382 – Southeast Asia: The Age of Imperialism and Revolution Since 1880 (3 credits)
  - » Hist 402 – Topics in Asian History: (with appropriate subtitle) (3 credits)

The remaining nine credits are chosen from a list of approved courses, at least 6 of which must be selected from courses with a primary focus on Hmong cultural groups.

*Certificate programs are similar to minors. They are comprised of 15 to 26 credits in a specialized subject matter, and include coursework from different departments. Certificates can be combined with a degree program, or they are available as stand-alone options for individuals who already hold a bachelor's degree from any accredited college or university. Many certificates also will enroll individuals with a strong interest in the topic area but who do not have a degree.*

All classes must be taken on a graded basis, and students must maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average.

Students interested in the program should consult with the program coordinator to discuss course selection and requirements related to course distribution.

## Electives

The list of approved courses from which a student can make class selections includes:

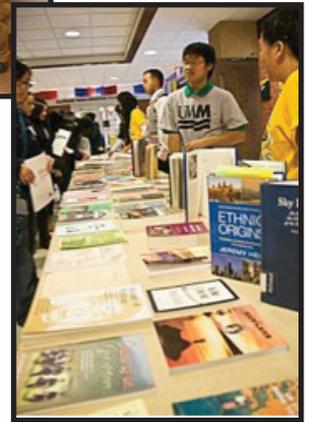
- All Hmong language and literacy courses
- Hmong 199 – Independent Study (3 credits)
- Hmong 289 – Internship in Hmong Studies, Lower Division (1-6 Credits)
- Hmong 296 – UROP Apprenticeship (1-6 credits)
- Hmong 297 – Study Abroad (1-12 credits)
- Hmong 489 – Internship in Hmong Studies, Upper Division (1-6 credits)
- Hmong 496 – Advanced UROP Apprenticeship (1-3 credits)
- Hmong 497 – Study Abroad (1-12 credits)
- Hmong 699 – Advanced Independent Study (1-3 credits)
- Anthro/English/History/Women’s Studies 150 – Multicultural America (3 credits)
- English 192 – First-Year Seminar: “Hmong American Life Stories” or “Southeast Asian American Life Stories” (3 credits)
- Ethnic 699 – Advanced Independent Study (1-3 credits)
- Hist 287 – The Vietnam War (3 credits)
- Hist 382 – Southeast Asia: The Age of Imperialism and Revolution Since 1880 (3 credits)
- Hist 402 – Topics in Asian History: (with appropriate subtitle) (3 credits)
- Hist 436 – Immigrant America Since 1880 (3 credits)

The program sponsors a number of different events for students and the general public. These events are designed to supplement classroom learning as well as share knowledge and culture with the surrounding community.

Recent events include guest speakers, conversation tables to practice language skills, films, storytelling, and cultural fairs and celebrations.



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