MASTER’S DEGREE

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the multi-disciplinary Indigenous Studies Program is to educate students and promote scholarship about the
complexity and diversity of Indigenous peoples’ cultures and histories, and to provide students with the knowledge to
understand and assess the U.S. tribes’ unique relationships to the US government. Indigenous Studies encourages appreciation
of the contributions of Indigenous peoples to the global society, provides students with an understanding of the difficulties
confronting tribal nations and offers foundational knowledge to assist them in finding innovative solutions to solve those
problems.

MASTER’S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Students pursuing the M.A. in Indigenous Studies must successfully complete a minimum of 30 graduate credit hours:
a 9-hour core curriculum plus 21 hours taken according to either Plan A or Plan B.

Core Curriculum
ISP 800: Indigenous Issues in the United States. A 3-hour graduate-level course taught by the director of the ISP with guest
presentations by faculty who study indigenous peoples from various disciplinary perspectives.

One 3-hour graduate-level course in the history of indigenous peoples of North America, e.g. HIST 801: Graduate
Colloquium in Indigenous Peoples of North America.

One 3-hour graduate-level course with 50% or more content in Indigenous Peoples that has been approved by the Executive
Committee, offered by certain departments such as English, History, and Humanities & Western Civilization.

Plan A: Portfolio
12 hours in an approved track (area of specialization) in
another department or program with content relevant to
the field of indigenous studies.

9 hours of electives.

An MA examination: an oral examination in which the
candidate defends his or her portfolio, which will be
composed of the student's entire body of work completed
in courses counted for the degree.

Plan B: Thesis
12 hours in an approved track (area of specialization) in
another department or program with content relevant to
the field of indigenous studies.

6 hours of electives.

3 hours: a thesis on an approved subject with an oral
defense.

AFFILIATE FACULTY
Norman Akers, Visual Arts
Stephanie Fitzgerald, English
W. Matthew Gillispie, Speech-Language-Hearing
John Hoopes, Archaeology
Jay Johnson, Geography
Paul Kelton, History
Kelly Kindscher, Environmental Studies
Elizabeth Kronk, Law
Andrew McKenzie, Linguistics

Brent Metz, Anthropology
Joane Nagel, Sociology
Sharon O’Brien, Political Science
Margaret Pearce, Geography
Lizette Peter, Education
Catherine Preston, Film & Media Studies
Peter Welsh, Museum Studies
Michael Zogry, Religious Studies
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Candidates requesting consideration for admission to the Master of Arts program in Indigenous Studies must complete the online application through the Office of Graduate Studies. Applicants should upload the supporting application documents listed below to the online application. There is no need to send copies of application materials directly to the Indigenous Studies Program.

Timeline
The Indigenous Studies Program accepts students on a rolling admissions basis. Students may apply to be admitted for either the fall or spring semesters. Priority consideration will be given to applications received by April 1 for the Fall semester and by October 1 for the Spring semester.

Application Documents
- **GRE verbal and analytical writing scores**
- **Transcript(s) from undergraduate or graduate institution(s) you have attended**
  - The Office of Graduate Studies requires a *minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA* for admission
  - Applicants may attach a scanned version of their official transcript from their undergraduate institution, as well as a scanned version of their official transcripts from any post-Bachelor institution to the online application. Because these transcripts are not coming directly from the institution, KU does not consider them official. However, you may be admitted with unofficial transcripts.
- **Writing sample of at least 10 pages**
- **5-page personal statement** explaining how a Master's degree in Indigenous Studies will benefit you and why you will successfully complete the degree
  - Applicants can upload their writing samples and statements as part of the application.
- **Three letters of recommendation**
  - The letter of recommendation system works on the contact information provided by the applicant at the time of application.

SCHOLARSHIPS
The Indigenous Studies Program will award several scholarships to incoming and current Master’s degree students for the 2013-2014 school year. Incoming students should complete their application into the Graduate program by February 1. The committee will use application materials to determine scholarship awards. Please indicate on the application that you would like to be considered for scholarships. Only students admitted on regular status are eligible.