

### 17.0 Department of Indigenous Studies

#### 17.0.1 Faculty and Staff

##### Department Head

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##### Staff

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#### 17.0.2 Location

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#### 17.1 General

The Department of Indigenous Studies is one of the largest departments within the First Nations University of Canada. Since 1976, Indigenous Studies has provided the Social Science core for most degree and certificate programs since the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College opened in 1976.

The department fosters the intellectual study of Indigenous peoples and their cultures, with emphasis on Saskatchewan first, followed by Canada, North America, the western hemisphere, and the world. This is accomplished through examination of the extant and emerging literatures, methods, and theories concerning Indigenous peoples and their cultures - both from Indigenous viewpoints and through comparisons.

The department is a vehicle for enhancing awareness for and about Indigenous peoples and their cultures, in both broad and specific terms, which consciously discourages parochialism, anti-intellectualism and reductionism through competence in analytical processes, written expression, and research methods. The efforts of the department are explicitly meant to complement and not replace the knowledge and traditional teachings of the Elders.

Competencies in the standard of western educational accomplishments are stressed as only one part of balanced personal development. Students are encouraged to seek cultural growth, as a vital part of their education, within the more broadly based meaning of university higher education. Indigenous Studies graduates are prepared to compete for all career options open to other university Arts graduates; to participate in second-degree programs in faculties such as Law, Administration, Education, Fine Arts, Science, and Social Work; or to pursue Honours and Graduate Studies in the Social Sciences or Humanities.

For information on the Indigenous Studies Special Case MA, see the Graduate Studies section of this calendar.

## 17.2 Academic Programs

### 17.2.1 Bachelor of Arts (120 Credit Hours)

A major in Indigenous Studies must include the following:

1. INDG 100 and 101
2. One of INDG 208, 210, 215, 216, 218, 219, 221, or 222
3. One of INDG 224 or 225
4. One of INDG 228 or 229
5. One of INDG 280, 281, or 282
6. Nine courses in Indigenous studies at or above the 200 level, including a minimum of two at the 300 level and one at the 400 level.

A minimum of 45 credit hours in Indigenous studies is required for the BA degree. Credit in Indigenous studies may be obtained by taking INCA 283.

### 17.2.2 Bachelor of Arts Honours (120 Credit Hours)

The honours program in Indigenous studies must include the following:

- INDG 100, 101, 228, 229, 234, 380, 490 and 491
- One of INDG 208, 210, 215, 216, 218, 219, 221, or 222
- One of INDG 224 or 225
- One of INDG 280, 281, or 282
- Nine courses in Indigenous studies at or above the 200 level, including a minimum of three at the 300 level and two at the 400 level.

Students interested in the honours degree program are strongly urged to consult the head of the Department of Indigenous Studies by the end of the second year of course work.

#### 17.2.2.1 Minor in Indigenous Studies (18 Credit Hours)

A minor in Indigenous Studies must include the following:

- INDG 100 and 101
- One of INDG 208, 210, 215, 216, 218, 219, 221, or 222
- One of INDG 224, 232, 234, 236, 238 or 258
- Two additional courses in Indigenous studies

### 17.2.3 Master of Arts (Special Case)

For information on the Indigenous Studies Special Case M.A. degree program, see the Graduate Studies section of the calendar. Further information is provided in the University of Regina Graduate Studies & Research Calendar.

Remember: The Cooperative Education Program is open to Arts students. See page 85 for more information.

### 17.3 Courses Descriptions

#### INDG 100

##### **Introduction to Indigenous Studies I**

**3:3-0**

This course introduces the subject of Indigenous studies with a survey of Indigenous peoples in Canada from their origins, through European influence, and to the end of the historic treaty period.

**Prerequisite:** None. Note: INDG 100 and INDG 101 can be taken concurrently with permission of the department head.

#### INDG 101

##### **Introduction to Indigenous Studies II**

**3:3-0**

This course is a survey of Indigenous peoples in Canada during the post treaty period to include political organizations, social and economic change, the land claims process, and issues of self-determination.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 100 or permission of department head. Note: INDG 100 and INDG 101 can be taken concurrently with permission of the department head.

#### INDG 104

##### **Introduction to Indigenous Studies Higher Learning**

**3:3-1**

This course utilizes a collection of writings designed to help First Nations students understand themselves through an Indigenous world-view in the context of university life. This course assists students in developing attitudes and aptitudes necessary for academic and future life success through principles of critical thinking and learning.

#### INDG 200

##### **Introduction to International Indigenous Issues**

**3:3-0**

This course is an introduction to current issues, developments, and concepts affecting Indigenous peoples.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

#### INDG 208

##### **Cree Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Cree societies, with special emphasis on Cree societies resident in Saskatchewan.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

#### INDG 210

##### **Assiniboine Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Assiniboine societies, with special emphasis on Assiniboine societies resident in Saskatchewan.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

#### INDG 215

##### **Saulteaux Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Plains Ojibway (Saulteaux) societies, with special emphasis on Saulteaux societies resident in Saskatchewan.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

#### INDG 216

##### **Dene Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Dene societies, with special emphasis on Dene societies resident in Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

### **INDG 218**

#### **Dakota Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Dakota societies, with special emphasis on Dakota societies resident in Canada.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

### **INDG 219**

#### **Inuit Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of Inuit societies in Canada, their perceptions, developments, and interpretations.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

### **INDG 221**

#### **Metis Culture and History**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the historical development of the Metis as a distinct culture and society, their relations to Indian Nations, and their past and present roles in the evolution of Canadian society.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

### **INDG 222 AA-ZZ**

#### **Topics in Cultural Heritage**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the culture and history of selected Indigenous societies, with emphasis on the Indigenous cultural heritage of Canada.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip or significant cultural event.

### **INDG 224**

#### **Indigenous Political Systems of North America**

**3:3-0**

This course examines the structures, processes, organizations, and dynamics of selected North American Indigenous political systems.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 225**

#### **Principles of Indigenous Law**

**3:3-0**

This course examines the concept of aboriginal rights, as well as other special rights of aboriginal people, from both Indigenous and western legal perspectives.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 228**

#### **Indigenous History within Canada: Eastern Canada**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the history of Indigenous/non-Indigenous relations in Eastern Canada from contact to the present, emphasizing the historical perspectives of specific Indigenous societies.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 229**

#### **Indigenous History within Canada: Western Canada**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the history of Indigenous/non-Indigenous relations in Western Canada from contact to the present, emphasizing the historical perspectives of specific Indigenous societies.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 232**

#### **Indigenous Systems of Religion and Philosophy**

**3:3-0**

This course will examine the systemic nature and concepts of Indigenous religious and philosophical belief, thought, and practice. The holism of Indigenous perspectives will be demonstrated.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.

- INDG 234**  
**Ethnology of North American Indians** **3:3-0**  
 This course is an investigation of the cultural and social systems of the culture areas of North America. Attention to ecological adaptation, social organization, value systems and integration of cultures will be combined with a focus on ethnological problems and anthropological methods.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. Note: ANTH 100 is recommended.
- INDG 236**  
**Indigenous Economic, Environmental, and Geographic Systems** **3:3-0**  
 This course will examine the interrelationships of Indigenous economies, environments, and geographies. The holism of Indigenous perspectives will be demonstrated.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 238**  
**Systems of Indigenous Identity, Culture and Society** **3:3-0**  
 This course will examine concepts central to Indigenous identity, including those categorized as cultural, social, and psychological. The holism of Indigenous perspectives will be demonstrated.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 258**  
**Gender Issues and Indigenous Societies** **3:3-0**  
 This course examines the concepts of gender both within and among Indigenous societies. The holism of Indigenous perspectives will be demonstrated.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 270**  
**Introduction to Museums and First Peoples** **3:3-0**  
 This web-based course introduces the history and role of museums and examines museum practices concerning First Peoples at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 280**  
**Research Issues in Indigenous Studies** **3:3-0**  
 This course examines the dynamics of research in Indigenous studies, including ethics, sensitivities, protocols, and priorities. The course will survey the history of research in Indigenous studies.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 281**  
**Methods and Theory in Documenting Oral Traditions** **3:3-0**  
 This course introduces methods and theory in the documentation of oral traditions and texts specifically focused on Indigenous contexts.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 282**  
**Methods in Indigenous Community-Based Research** **3:3-0**  
 This course will provide the basic methods in applied research involving Indigenous people and their communities.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head.
- INDG 300**  
**Indigenous Peoples and Development Change in Latin America** **3:3-0**  
 This course is an introduction to problems of development and development change affecting Indigenous peoples of Latin America through comparative analysis and case studies.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 200 or permission of department head.

- INDG 301**  
**Contemporary Indigenous Issues in Canada** 3:3-0  
 This course examines issues confronting contemporary aboriginal societies, comparing and contrasting the present concerns and aspirations of aboriginal people in Canada.  
**Prerequisite:** Any 200-level course in Indigenous Studies or permission of department head.
- INDG 305**  
**Urbanization and the Indigenous Peoples** 3:3-0  
 This course examines the increasing migration of Canadian Indigenous peoples to urban centres and their changing socio-economic conditions. Includes examination of government policy affecting off-reserve Indians, and urban Indian agendas for change.  
**Prerequisite:** Any 200-level course in Indigenous Studies or permission of department head.
- INDG 320**  
**Exchange Relations in Indigenous Society** 3:3-0  
 This course is an examination of pre-contact and post-contact trade relations of Indigenous peoples of Canada.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 228 or 229 or permission of department head.
- INDG 324**  
**Politics and the Indigenous Peoples of Canada** 3:3-0  
 This course will survey the recent national political situation of Canadian Indians, Canadian Indian organizations and associations, major political issues, and future directions.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 224 or permission of department head.
- INDG 325**  
**The Indian Act** 3:3-0  
 This course will study and analyze the Indian Act(s) through lectures, seminars, and case studies, including its historical, legislative, and legal background, its effect upon Indigenous societies, and its future role.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 224 or 225 or permission of department head.
- INDG 332**  
**Indigenous Religions and Philosophy** 3:3-0  
 This course is an analytical investigation of the traditional world views, philosophies, and religions of the Indigenous people of North America, including the narratives of Elders, creation stories, the Trickster, syncretism, ritual studies, dreams, reincarnation, and environmental ethics. The holism of Indigenous perspectives will be demonstrated.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 232 or permission of department head.
- INDG 334**  
**History of the Study of Indigenous Peoples as the “Other”** 3:3-0  
 This course contextualizes the extensive literatures produced by scientists and humanists as a result of the study of Indigenous peoples. The course will cover the objective, subjective, reflexive, and representative aspects of Indigenous cultures and societies, approached through sociological knowledge and history of ideas.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. INDG 234 is recommended.
- INDG 338**  
**Reserves - Their History and Development** 3:3-0  
 This course is a descriptive and analytical study of Indian reserves focusing on the social and political economy of the Indigenous peoples prior to and after European arrival, and the invention and implementation of the reserve as a structure of social control in government policy.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 228 or 229 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 340**

#### **Indian Reserve Economic Planning**

**3:3-0**

This course will examine economic development theory and planning processes, including human resource development, as they apply to the Indian reserve economy. The methods of conducting community economic base studies and preparing economic development plans will be examined. Critical evaluation of case studies of community economic development will be used to develop analytical skills.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 236 and 282 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 358**

#### **The Roles of Women in Indigenous Societies**

**3:3-0**

This course is an analytical investigation of the traditional and contemporary roles of Indigenous women in Indigenous societies, including legal status, social systems, political constituency, and spiritual power.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 258 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 360**

#### **Indigenous Economic Geography**

**3:3-0**

This course is a study of Indigenous socio-economic characteristics and management of community resources.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 236 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 372**

#### **Canadian Land Claims Settlement Processes**

**3:3-0**

This course explores the history and development processes of land claims in Canada resulting from efforts subsequent to the Calder decision and the announced policies of comprehensive and specific claims to contemporary developments, including the Nisg'a Final Agreement, the Delgamuukw decision, the Treaty Land Entitlement frameworks in place, and the Indian Claims Commission.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 100 and 101 or permission of department head. INDG 228 and 229 are recommended.

### **INDG 375**

#### **Indigenous History Within the United States**

**3:3-0**

This course surveys the histories of selected Indigenous groups in their experience of being engulfed by the creation of the United States. This will be done by examining policy development and implementation and the experience of Indigenous people in their resistance and perseverance.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 228 or 229 or permission of department head. Note: The course includes a field trip.

### **INDG 380**

#### **Research Methods in Indigenous Studies**

**3:3-0**

This course is a survey of various research methods compatible with the goals of Indigenous studies research agendas. The course will include a sampling of various kinds of applied and pure research accomplishments.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 280, 281 or 282 or permission of department head.

### **INDG 390 AA-ZZ**

#### **Directed Reading and Research**

**Variable Credit: 1-3 hours**

Courses designed for individual students. Permission of the department head is required to register.

### **INDG 400**

#### **Indigenous Peoples Under International Law**

**3:3-0**

This course is a comparative political analysis of the major features in the development and application of international law as it pertains to Indigenous peoples. It focuses on the nature and evolution of the international Indigenous movement as well as the issues, ideas, and limitations of using international law.

**Prerequisite:** INDG 300 or permission of department head.

- INDG 410**  
**Ethnic Identity Theory and Indigenous Studies** **3:3-0**  
 This course will examine ethnic identity theories in the social sciences and their application to the study of Indigenous societies.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 238 and any Indigenous Studies 300-level course or permission of department head.
- INDG 415**  
**North American Indigenous Religious Philosophies** **3:3-0**  
 This course analyses traditional Indigenous religious systems of thought, practice, and beliefs, and the impact of these philosophies on contemporary Indigenous ideas.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 232 and any 300-level course in Indigenous Studies or permission of department head.
- INDG 421**  
**Issues in Self-Determination** **3:3-0**  
 This course explores models for self-determination, including economic development, land claims, and other issues.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 224 and any 300-level course in Indigenous Studies or permission of department head.
- INDG 424**  
**The Principles of Indigenous Governance** **3:3-0**  
 This course analyzes the principles, structures, and development of Indigenous governments in Saskatchewan and Canada, emphasizing emerging models.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 324 or permission of department head.
- INDG 428**  
**Ethnohistory: Theory and Method in the Study of Peoples of the Americas** **3:3-0**  
 In this course, ethnohistory, an important methodological orientation within Indigenous studies, is examined by specific studies to discern applications of developing thought and practice.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 228 and 229 or permission of department head. INDG 375 is recommended.
- INDG 430**  
**Aboriginal Peoples and the Canadian Constitution** **3:3-0**  
 This course examines the key struggle to entrench the rights of aboriginal peoples in the Canadian Constitution, changes in the Indian Act over time, and the processes of constitutional negotiations with federal and provincial governments.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 301 and 324 or permission of department head.
- INDG 440**  
**Strategies for Indigenous Economic Development** **3:3-0**  
 This course examines key issues and strategies in Indigenous economic development.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 340 or permission of department head.
- INDG 480**  
**Indigenous Studies Field Research Practicum** **3:3-0**  
 This course is an applied field research project from design to final report stages, to be carried out under the supervision of the Department of Indigenous Studies.  
**Prerequisite:** INDG 380 or permission of department head. Note: Students must fill out the Worker's Compensation Agreement form prior to work placement.
- INDG 490**  
**Honours Seminar** **3:3-0**  
 This seminar will meet to guide students in their honours proposal preparation and research.  
**Prerequisites:** INDG 380 and permission of department head.

### **INDG 491**

#### **Honours Thesis**

**3:3-0**

This course provides supervision of the writing and completion of the honours thesis and its defense.

**Prerequisites:** INDG 490 and permission of department head.

### **INDG 492 AA-ZZ**

#### **Directed Reading and Research**

**Variable Credit: 1-3 hours**

Courses designed for senior undergraduate students. Permission of the department head is required to register.

### **INDG 496 AA-ZZ**

#### **Selected Topics in Indigenous Studies**

**Variable Credit: 1-3 hours**

Courses designed for groups of senior undergraduates. Permission of the department head is required to register.