

# The Aboriginal Governance and Partnership Certificate Program



Faculty of Native Studies  
University of Alberta  
June 2011

# The Faculty of Native Studies

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- **School of Native Studies**
- **1988**
- **Student Population**
- **50% Aboriginal**



For more information, please visit our website: [www.ualberta.ca/nativestudies](http://www.ualberta.ca/nativestudies)

# What we do

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- Teaching
- Research
- Challenge

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# What we do

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- Welcomes Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students
- Combines perspectives
- Fosters cultural awareness
- Aims to build bridges



# What we do

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- Interdisciplinary teaching and research
- Community-based Research
- International research



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# Programs of Study

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- B.A. (Native Studies)
- B.A. (Native Studies) Honors
- B.A. (Native Studies)  
2-year After-Degree

## 5-year Combined Degree Programs:

- B.A. (Native Studies) / B.Ed.
  - Secondary route with assorted majors
  - Elementary route with assorted minors
- B.A. (Native Studies) / B.Sc. (Environmental Conservation Sciences)

## Graduate Programs:

- M.A. (Native Studies)



# Programs of Study

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## The Aboriginal Governance and Partnership Certificate

This certificate program provides students with the skills and understanding to effectively lead, work or partner with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses, communities, organizations, and governments.

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# The Aboriginal Governance and Partnership Certificate

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- **The curriculum features theory and practice for negotiations and partnership between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal entities, including best practices for:**
  - Successful partnership;
  - Leadership;
  - Government;
  - Management and Administration; and
  - Business growth.
- **Embedded and Free-standing**

# Certificate Requirements

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- **Ten courses**
  - Three pre-requisites (9 units)
    - ✦ NS 110 Native Issues and Insights I
    - ✦ NS 111 Native Issues and Insights II
    - ✦ NS 240 Introduction to Aboriginal Legal Issues
  - Four core courses (12 units)
    - ✦ NS 320 Aboriginal Governments & Politics
    - ✦ NS 345 Management Issues in Native Communities
    - ✦ NS 420 Negotiation Strategies
    - ✦ NS 430 Governance Capstone Project
  - Three electives (9 units)
  - Total certificate requirements = 30 units

## Electives

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- **Nine units chosen from the following:**
  - NS 330 Native Economic Development
  - NS 340 Aboriginal Legal Issues
  - NS 372 Métis Politics
  - NS 403 Governance Topics in Aboriginal Communities
  - NS 435 Management of Aboriginal Natural Resources
  - NS 445 Community Development Processes
  - NS 485 Urban Aboriginal Issues and Identities

# NS 320 Aboriginal Government & Politics

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- **Theory**

- Concepts of self-government and governance
- What constitutes good governance
- Exposure to different types of governance structures and governing bodies
- Role of governing bodies
- Understanding how governments work
- Decision-making processes
- Role of women, youth and elders in Aboriginal governments
- Concepts of accountability, conflict of interest, ethics
- Understanding the role of constitutions, acts, public policies, and by-laws

# NS 320 Aboriginal Governments & Politics

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- **Applied Skills**

- Reading comprehension
- Critical analysis of a document
- Presentation skills
- Developing visions and goals
- Reviewing public policies, by-laws, constitutions and codes
- Knowledge of government structures/departments, their roles and interconnections

# NS 345 Management Issues in Native Communities

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- **Theory**

- The role of managers versus leaders
- Organizational structures, culture, and decision-making
- Reporting processes
- Strategic planning
- Financial management
- Budgeting, cash flow projections
- Performance measurement processes
- Concepts of effective administration, organizational and cultural match, motivation, change management, teamwork, conflict management, respect, and conflict of interest

# NS 345 Management Issues in Native Communities

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- **Applied Skills**

- Ability to analyze and develop a budget and cash flow statement
- Develop organizational objectives and plans
- Develop short and long term objectives
- Know the purpose and use of financial statements
- Develop and analyze performance measures
- Develop internal controls and accountability processes
- Understand aspects of human resource management
- Organize community-based programs
- Create organizational charts
- Improve or develop business writing skills
- Report writing
- Presentation skills

# Ns 420 Negotiation Strategies

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- **Theory**

- Concepts of accountability and ethics
- Communicating with communities and other levels of governments/stakeholders
- How to embody a common vision and values
- Understanding of intergovernmental power and politics, internal power and influence mechanisms, negotiation, collaboration, partnership, bargaining tools, relationship and network building

# Ns 420 Negotiation Strategies

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- **Applied Skills**
  - Relationship building – working as a team
  - Communication skills
  - Presentation skills
  - Critical analysis of case studies
  - Negotiation skills
  - Writing a process assessment

# Ns 430 Governance Capstone Project

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## ● Theory

- Relationship building strategies and communication methods
- Court decisions and negotiated agreements
- Nation building tools
- Challenges of implementing self-government agreements
- Intergovernmental relations
- The role of leadership in Aboriginal governance
- Governance structures
- Treaty governance
- The practicalities of Canadian Aboriginal self-government agreements
- Trends in the implementation of self-government
- Aboriginal governance – the ideal vs. the reality

# Ns 430 Governance Capstone Project

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- **Applied Skills**

- Briefing notes – what are they, how to research and write
- Creating project management charts
- Developing business plans
- Report writing
- Presentation skills
- Critical analysis
- Relationship building
- Communication skills
- Working with a team
- Community service learning project

# Logistics

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- **Cost**
- **Delivery methods**
- **Entrance requirements**

## **Faculty of Native Studies**

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# Questions/Comments?

