

MASTER OF ARTS INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS STUDIES (GIS)

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Graduate Program Chair: Jacqueline T. Romanow.

Professors: G. Nemogá. Associate Professors: S. Shukla. Assistant Professors: D. Nault, S. Penner. Lecturers: C. Anderson, R. Hamilton.

Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance

The Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance (MAIG) is grounded in the intellectual and cultural heritage of Indigenous peoples and their nations within Canada and around the globe. The program is dedicated to the resurgence and practice of Indigenous ways of knowing and being through a curriculum that incorporates contemporary scholarly research as well as teachings from local and international knowledge holders grounded in a thorough understanding of the past, present and future political realities and aspirations of Indigenous nations. Through the MAIG, students will gain an understanding of the philosophical, administrative, and political dimensions of Indigenous leadership and governance. The curriculum emphasizes Indigenous world views and experiences involving interrelated themes of rights and resources, justice and legal traditions, and cultural resurgence and revitalization within the context of Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination.

The Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance is a multidisciplinary program grounded in an understanding of Indigenous peoples' values, principles, and philosophies. The approach we foster is one that combines a supportive environment for students of all backgrounds while modeling and fostering the highest standards of excellence inside and outside of the classroom. We recognize and honor the central role of language as carrier of culture, conveyor of tradition and knowledge, and signifier of individual and community identity by requiring the study of an Indigenous language, for example, Ojibwe or Cree. A rights-based focus will prepare students to take leadership positions in the private and public sectors, to create and influence policy, to creatively approach development from an Indigenous perspective, and to promote the visibility and recognition of sovereign Indigenous peoples and nations in Canada and abroad.

The program's specific objectives are to:

- Provide studies in matters of good governance grounded in Indigenous thought and values.
- Provide an in-depth understanding of the human, environmental and financial issues and processes relevant to Indigenous self-determination.
- Promote leadership and skills in areas of policy development and professional practice relevant to Indigenous governance and public service organizations working with Indigenous peoples.
- Create a new intellectual space to engage Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars in the gathering, application and evolution of Indigenous knowledge, philosophies, and governance models.

Annual deadline for applications: **February 1. (Applications may be accepted after the deadline; please contact the department)**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT

Admission is open to university graduates holding a relevant, recognized 4-Year General or Honours Bachelor of Arts degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better in the last 60 credit hours of coursework.

A relevant degree may include but is not restricted to the following disciplines: Indigenous/Native/First Nation/American Indian Studies, Environmental Studies, Natural sciences, Political Science, Economics, Law, Anthropology, Sociology, Conflict Resolution Studies, Justice Studies, or History.

Students holding a 3-year undergraduate degree may be admitted to the Master's program upon successful completion of a University of Winnipeg designed pre-Master's program which consists of a set of upper-level undergraduate courses.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete and submit On-Line Application available in Graduate Studies website:
<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/graduate-studies/future-students/online-application-form.html>
2. Submit two official transcripts of academic work completed to date, sent directly from the issuing institution.
3. Submit two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with your academic work.
4. Submit an academic writing sample, preferably a recent peer-reviewed publication or an essay from a recent course.
5. Submit the General Bursary Program Application along with your graduate program application directly to the Office of Graduate Studies, **not** to the Office of Awards and Financial Aid. Up-to-date application form is available in Awards and Financial Aid website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards>
6. Students are encouraged to apply for the University of Winnipeg Graduate Scholarship for Master's Students. The up-to-date application form is available in Internal Awards, Graduate Studies website:
<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awds-current-continuing>

English language requirement (where applicable)

Applicants for whom English is not their mother language must show that they have met the English requirement. Please refer to the University of Winnipeg International Office webpage <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/international-engprofrqmts>
The test must be taken within a year of the date a completed application is submitted.

If you have any questions about our program and/or the application process, please contact:

Crystal Moore
Department Assistant
Department of Indigenous Studies
Telephone: 204.786.9305
Email: cj.moore@uwinnipeg.ca

REQUIREMENTS FOR AN MA IN INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE

Course Work and Graduation Streams

This is a two-year Master of Arts Program that offers the students the choice of completing the degree requirements via three streams. All students are required to take a total of 30 credit hours of work including 21 credit hours of required courses and 3 credit hours of elective courses. The remaining 6 credits are earned through a **thesis**, which is defended orally and assessed by a committee, a **practicum** which is developed with a supervisor and a relevant Indigenous organization, community or government, or a comprehensive examination that will include a written and oral component.

Required Courses

GIS-7021(6) Pathways to Indigenous Wisdom

GIS-7022(6) Indigenous Research Methodologies and Ethics

GIS-7020(3) Indigenous Self Determination

Six credit hours in an Indigenous language* (**GIS-1101, GIS-1201, GIS-2101, or GIS-2201**)

Three credit hours in an elective course (**GIS-7023, GIS-7024, GIS-7025, GIS-7026, GIS-7028, GIS 7703, GIS-7030, GIS-7200**)

GIS-7101(6) Master's Thesis

OR

GIS-7102(6) Practicum

OR

GIS-7103(6) Comprehensive Examination

*Indigenous Studies department will accept proof of proficiency or study in another indigenous language to waive language requirement.

Elective Courses**

GIS-7023(3) Indigenous Peoples, Globalization and Development

GIS-7024(3) Biocultural Diversity Conservation: Balancing scientific and indigenous knowledge practices.

GIS-7025(3) Indigenous Language Rights

GIS-7026(3) Community Food Security: Indigenous and International Perspectives

GIS-7028 (6) Human and Indigenous Rights in Latin America

GIS 7703 (3) Indigenous Education in an Era of Globalization

GIS-7030(3/6) Directed Readings
GIS-7200(3/6) Seminar in Selected Topics

** Please note that not all elective courses are offered every year. In addition, in consultation with their advisor, students may take relevant courses in other Departments and Master programs. With the approval of the Chair Department Graduate Committee, students could also take graduate course offered in other universities through the Western Deans Agreement.