



FACULTY OF ARTS

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

Indigenous languages are the foundation of Indigenous knowledges and communities. The Indigenous Languages Thematic Major provides students with an interdisciplinary education in Indigenous Languages that focuses on revitalization, planning, and communication.

Through core courses in Indigenous Studies and Linguistics, students grow as proficient speakers of an Indigenous language and as capable proponents of Indigenous language revitalization. Students have opportunities for experiential learning to complement teaching and research.

Graduates of the program will join a growing community of people who are dedicated to, and have the skills to support, ongoing learning, speaking, researching, and teaching Indigenous languages, contributing to the revitalization of Indigenous languages.

This program leads to a **Bachelor of Arts degree (3-year or 4-year)**. Students may also choose to take this degree as part of an **Integrated BEd/BA** to pursue a career in teaching Indigenous languages in K-12 classrooms.

SAMPLE COURSES

Oral Immersion in Cree or Ojibwe is intended for students to learn conversational Cree or Ojibwe through community language learning methods. The emphasis is primarily on oral conversations using vocabulary, expressions, simple sentences, and conjunctive sentences of selected themes through contemporary and traditional perspectives.

Indigenous Languages, Contact, & Change examines Indigenous languages of Manitoba and the changes that have occurred due to colonization and assimilation as well as the very serious process of Indigenous language endangerment now occurring on a global scale.

Language Revitalization examines the need for language revitalization in the context of language endangerment. Students will learn about factors that contribute to languages remaining strong, as well as processes such as colonization and assimilation that have led to language shift, loss, and death. Students will learn about the importance of diverse languages, and also about strategies and programs that communities have applied to maintain or regain their languages. Key language revitalization methods are taught, including language healing, language development, language learning technologies, language nests, and master-apprentice programs.

MORE SAMPLE COURSES

- Language Policy & Planning
- Indigenous Languages: Culture, Rights, and Conflicts
- Intermediate Cree or Ojibwe
- Gibiindwewesijigemin: Documenting Indigenous Languages through Oral History Interviews
- Indigenous Language Mentorship

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

IS-1016(3) Introduction to Indigenous Studies: Art, Culture & History
IS-1101(6) Introductory Cree or IS-1201(6) Introductory Ojibwe
LING-1001(6) Introduction to Linguistics
SOC-1101 (6) Introduction to Sociology
RHET-1101(3) Academic Writing: Humanities, or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)
6 credit hours Science

NOTE: This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. You may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programs you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.

TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAM

The highly supportive Transition Year Program (TYP) helps Aboriginal students make a successful transition from their community to an urban university. The TYP Coordinator assists students with their applications, course selection, and registration process. First-year students are matched with returning Aboriginal students - mentors who provide support and familiarize new students with the campus. Contact Randy White at 204.786.9983 or r.white@uwinnipeg.ca to find out more about TYP.

“My goal is to become a Néhinawéwin (Cree) teacher...in Manitoba and see the Néhinawéwin language passed on to children, so that they can speak it fluently and pass it on to their children....My overall career goal is to see all Indigenous languages survive and thrive in Canada...so there’s no worries about when they will disappear anymore.”

– Cameron Adams, Integrated Education/Indigenous Languages Student, University of Winnipeg.

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

You must meet The University of Winnipeg’s general admission requirements. No specific courses required.

HOW TO APPLY

For details on application requirements and deadlines, and to apply online, please visit: uwinnipeg.ca/apply

For more information, contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844. In any case where the University’s Academic Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

CONTACT US

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