

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CONCENTRATION

The American Indian and Alaska Native concentration prepares students for advanced social work and public health practice with American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This concentration grounds students in the historical and contemporary issues facing Native populations from cultural, policy, and practice perspectives.

Students will develop the knowledge and skills to serve Native communities and individuals: understanding the extent, effects and causes of issues facing Native Peoples; understanding tribal governance and institutions; and understanding best practices for evaluating and intervening with communities. A special emphasis is placed on cultural competencies and using strengths-based perspectives.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS: 21 CREDITS

- American Indian Societies, Values and Cultures (3 credits)
- AI/AN Social Welfare Policies and Administrative Practices (3 credits)
- Social Work and American Indians (3 credits)
- Community Development with AI and Other Indigenous Communities (3 credits)
- Leadership Development & Evaluation in Indian Country: I, II, III & IV (3 credits)
- Three credits of leadership- and management-focused coursework
- Social Policy Analysis and Evaluation (3 credits) or Evaluation of Programs and Services (3 credits)

You will also have 9 elective credits, which can be used to broaden your expertise through courses such as:

- Fundamentals of Motivational Interviewing (1 credit)
- Differential Diagnosis (3 credits)

More information about our 60-credit MSW program is available at

brownschool.wustl.edu/msw-curriculum.

Details for advanced standing students are available at brownschool.wustl.edu/advancedstanding.



"I went into public health and social work because I wanted to connect practice and theory with my own lived experience in order to create positive social transformations within Native communities. With this training, I'm confident that I will be able to offer valuable solutions to tribal nations and communities, with compassion and respect."

MATTHEW R. FRANK
(NAVAJO NATION),
MSW/MPH '16

*American Indian & Alaska
Native Concentration*

*Research Project
Coordinator, Albuquerque
Area Southwest Tribal
Epidemiology Center*

"One of the greatest benefits to pursuing this concentration is the breadth of opportunities to work with experienced American Indian faculty, staff, students and communities. By becoming immersed in American Indian scholarship and connecting with experts in the field, you will greatly enrich the educational process and improve your professionalism and practice."

—David Patterson, Silver Wolf
(Adelv unegv Waya)
Chair, American Indian and Alaska Native
Concentration

CONCENTRATION PRACTICUM

The MSW program requires 600 hours of concentration practicum (in addition to 360 hour of foundation practicum). The concentration practicum must take place in an AI/AN-related setting.

Sample AI/AN practicum sites include:

- Cahokia Mounds (Collinsville, IL)
- Cherokee Elder Care/PACE (Tahlequah, OK)
- Haskell Indian Nations University (Lawrence, KS)
- Intertribal Council of Arizona (Phoenix, AZ)
- National Indian Child Welfare Association (Portland, OR)
- Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin (Oneida, WI)
- Parents as Teachers—Bureau of Indian Education (St. Louis, MO)

CAREER PATHS

Students earning an MSW with the American Indian and Alaska Native concentration are qualified for career paths with employers such as:

- Tribal governments
- Indian Health Services
- Community-based organizations serving AI/AN Peoples
- Urban and rural health clinics
- Tribal schools and colleges



Associate Professor
David Patterson researches the ways best practices are implemented in human services organizations. He directs the Community-Academic Partnership on Addiction (CAPA), which works to bring science to addiction services. Patterson also studies factors that improve the academic success of underrepresented minority college students—especially Native American/American Indian students.

CONTACT US

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MSW PROGRAM, CONTACT:

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