

What can I do with a Major in **Native American Studies**?



For more information on the NAS Major at the U of L:

<http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/native-american-studies>

Faculty of Arts & Science

A410 University Hall

Phone: 403-329-2635

Email: See [Contact Website](#)

Academic Advising:

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/academic-advising>

The Native American Studies (NAS) Program at the University of Lethbridge

Native American Studies (NAS) explores art, law, philosophy, health, politics, history, gender studies, ecology, business, customs and language—all from a unique Native perspective—making this one of the most sought-after programs of its kind in Canada. This multidisciplinary program leads to a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Arts & Science, and provides students with an opportunity to learn about Aboriginal heritage and culture. It explores the Native peoples of North America and their varied relationships with other Native and Non-Native people.

In this program, students will have the opportunity to investigate First Nations', Métis and Inuit (FNMI) history, heritage and culture, as well as the contemporary issues that face FNMI communities. Native American Studies students have a very active presence on campus through the [Native American Students' Association](#) (NASA), and have access to Native American and First Nations' instructors.

Skills Developed

- Appreciation of Cultural Diversity
- Attention to Detail
- Awareness of Current Social Issues
- Awareness of the Importance of Social, Historical & Cultural Context
- Collect, Question, Synthesize & Apply Data/Information
- Communication – Oral & Written
- Conduct Interdisciplinary Research
- Critical & Analytical Thinking
- Cross Cultural Skills
- Debate, Persuade & Mediate
- Information Acquisition & Management
- Knowledge of Federal First Nations Policies, Law & Sovereignty Issues
- Knowledge of First Nations Societies, Languages, Identities, Cultures, World Views & Political Issues
- Make Comparisons
- Meet Deadlines
- Organizational
- Problem Solving
- Sensitivity to Preconceptions & Stereotypes

Work Environments

The NAS major provides an excellent foundation for further academic pursuits in law, management, journalism or education. NAS graduates work in a variety of careers that collaborate with First Nations communities, such as arts and culture organizations/non-profits, community and social service agencies, educational institutes, research or academic institutes, publishers, law agencies, media companies, financial institutions or public interest groups.

Key Areas of Specialization:

Native American Art, Native Self-Government, Aboriginal Rights, Native Treaties, Native Law, Native Health, Native Women, Traditional Knowledge (Medicine & Ecology), Native Philosophy, Land Struggles, Sustainable Land Development, Repatriation

Entry Level Job Titles

These jobs are normally intended for new graduates and require 0 to 2 years of experience. It is important to note that many entry level positions require *some* related experience or demonstrated ability to perform job-related tasks. Even those positions that do not *require* experience will still prefer an experienced candidate, if one is available.

- Aboriginal Client Services
– Analyst/Trust Coordinator
- Aboriginal Consultation Advisor
- Aboriginal Education Worker
- Aboriginal Engagement Project Coordinator
- Heritage Interpreter
- Aboriginal Health Coordinator
- Aboriginal Liaison
- Aboriginal Liaison Community Coordinator
- Aboriginal Outreach Officer – Social Services
- Aboriginal Patient Advocate
- Aboriginal Recruiter
- Aboriginal Student Advisor
- Aboriginal Support Worker
- Community Justice Program Worker

Note: The U of L offers various resources and programs to facilitate students in gaining work and volunteer experience. Find an entry level position on the [CES job board](#) or join the [Management](#) or [Arts & Science](#) Cooperative Education Programs. Summer jobs, part-time work, internship positions and volunteer experience help students to enhance their skillset and accumulate work experience for their future career.

Related Job Titles

These jobs generally require extensive, relevant work experience and/or further education.

- Aboriginal Advisor
- Aboriginal Education Advisor
- Aboriginal Housing Advocate
- Aboriginal Issues Lobbying Organizer
- Aboriginal Patient Advocate
- Administrator
- Affirmative Action Representative
- Art Appraiser
- Art Historian
- Civil Service Worker
- Community Education Officer
- Community Involvement Animator
- Community Worker
- Cultural Affairs Officer
- Demographer
- Environmental Historian
- First Nations Education Coordinator
- First Nations Issues Educator
- Foreign Services Officer
- Governmental Diplomat
- Historian
- Historic Site/Foundation Administrator
- Historical Documentation Technician
- Historical Researcher
- Human Rights Worker
- Indigenous People's Human Rights Coordinator/Researcher
- International Affairs Adviser
- Multiculturalism Liaison Officer
- Museum Curator
- Museum Program Coordinator
- Native American Studies Librarian
- Native Issues Lobbyist
- Native Outreach Worker
- Political Researcher
- Politician
- Preservation Planner
- Public Policy Analyst
- Public Relations Specialist
- Teacher
- Tribal Legal Assistant
- University Professor
- Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator

Thinking Outside the Box: Other Possible Job Titles

On average, people change their careers three to five times in their lifetime. So, no matter what major you choose, you may still be interested in opportunities totally unrelated to your program of study. We encourage you to be open to all possibilities! Your undergraduate degree can be a springboard for other educational pursuits, and your transferable skills and experience can prepare you to work in a multitude of settings.

- Anthropologist
- Archaeologist
- Biographer
- Creative Writer
- Editor
- Employment Counsellor
- Family Counsellor
- Film Maker
- Genealogist
- Historical Film Producer
- International Banker
- Journalist
- Lawyer
- Marketer
- Paralegal
- Print Journalist
- Social Worker

Useful Resources

Recommended websites to assist in exploring the field of Native American Studies and its career opportunities.

Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge

<http://www.acleth.com>

First Nations, Metis & Inuit Student Resources –
University of Lethbridge

<http://www.uleth.ca/first-nations-metis-inuit/>

Aboriginal Relations Alberta

<http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca>

Blood Tribe Alberta

<http://www.bloodtribe.org>

Piikani Nation Alberta

<http://www.piikanation.com/>

Circle for Aboriginal Relations

<http://www.cfarsociety.ca>

Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth

<http://www.usay.ca/>

Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada

<http://www.afoa.ca/>

Aboriginal Human Resource Council

<http://www.aboriginalhr.ca>

Assembly of First Nations

<http://www.afn.ca/>

Native Women's Association of Canada

<http://www.nwac.ca>

Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

<https://www.ccab.com/>

Native American & Indigenous Studies Association

<http://www.naisa.org>

Council for the Advancement of Native
Development Officers

<http://www.edo.ca>

Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development
Canada

<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca>

American Indian Heritage Foundation

<http://www.indians.org>

American Native Indians

<http://www.airpi.org>

Association on American Indian Affairs

<http://www.indian-affairs.org>

Center for Native American Youth

<http://www.cnay.org/ForYouth.html>

Native American Times

<http://www.nativetimes.com/>

Campus Resources

Career & Employment Services (CES)

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/ces/>

Career Counselling (Counselling Services)

<http://www.uleth.ca/counselling/>

Academic Advising

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/academic-advising>

Native Student Advising

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/native-student-advising>

Student Success Centre – Study Skills, Learning Strategies & Tutoring

<http://www.uleth.ca/student-success-centre/>

Accommodated Learning Centre

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/accommodated-learning-centre/>

International Centre for Students

<http://www.uleth.ca/international/>

Registrar Office & Student Services

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/>

Scholarship & Students Finance

<http://www.uleth.ca/ross/student-finance/>

U of L Students' Union & Student Clubs

<http://www.ulsu.ca/>

Campus Job Resources

Career & Employment Services Job Board

[CES Job board](#)

Arts & Science Applied Studies

<http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/applied-studies/students>

Arts & Science Co-op Education & Internship

<http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/coop>

Management Co-op Education

<http://www.uleth.ca/management/co-op>

Study Abroad & Exchanges

<http://www.uleth.ca/international/content/study-abroad-exchanges>

Management Study Abroad & Exchanges

<http://www.uleth.ca/management/study-abroad>

Career & Employment Services (CES)

CES assists U of L students and graduates with their career exploration and work search needs.

AH154 Anderson Hall, Phone: 403-329-2000

Mon- Fri: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.