



EST. 1883

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- » Tribal Governance
- » Education
- » Multicultural Advisor
- » Government Liaison
- » Museum Curator
- » Political Activism

CONTEMPLATE THE INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE

The Center for American Indian Studies at Black Hills State University offers numerous courses across disciplines to help students fully understand the experiences of American Indians across the Northern Plains and the broader United States. In addition to promoting awareness of American Indian cultures, values, and social concerns, the Center for American Indian Studies also helps facilitate the academic programs for the American Indian Studies major and minor.

- **STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH** by taking courses cross-listed between American Indian Studies and English, Sociology, History, Political Science, and more.
- **THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES IS A HOME AWAY FROM HOME** where students can study, participate in student organization meetings, relax with friends, and seek assistance from an advisor or tutor.
- **THE AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES MAJOR** prepares students to examine the world around them from a comparative perspective. Students will learn how American Indian voices rise to challenge the dominant society's viewpoints of indigenous cultures, histories, and sovereignty.



JACEY GARCIA
CLASS OF 2022

Member of the Yankton Sioux tribe from Lake Andes, Jacey Garcia has already felt an impact from BHSU. Garcia is double majoring in American Indian Studies and Social Science and is a member of the National Guard's 155th Engineer Company.

"The American Indian Studies program has helped me learn more about the history of my heritage and who I am."



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DR. URLA MARCUS

Urla.Marcus@BHSU.edu • 605.642.6578 • BHSU.edu/American-Indian-Studies

COURSES IN AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

- **LAKOTA LANGUAGE:** Students can gain a basic understanding of the Lakota language through two semesters of introductory classes and continue their studies in intermediate classes which focus on reading, composition, vocabulary, and building upon the oral tradition.
- **ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LIFE:** American Indians are still thriving in society today! Issues in Contemporary Indian Life offers an analysis of current American Indian life by examining governmental policies, economics, societal considerations, and cultural changes as these relate to Indian citizens on and off the reservation.
- **EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE:** Students gain an understanding of the social, cultural, political, and economic histories American Indian peoples across North America from time immemorial to the end of the nineteenth century.

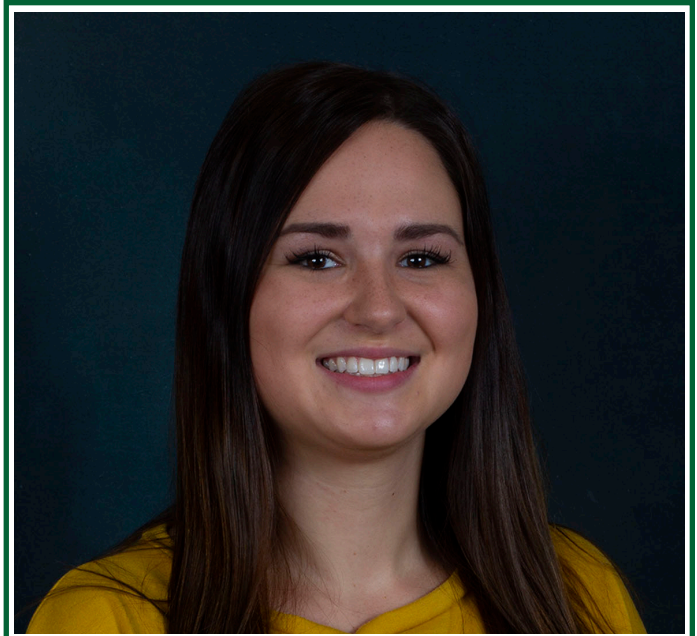
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

LAKOTA OMNICIYE

Lakota OmnicIye strives to develop and augment the Black Hills State University educational system to meet and specialize in the unique needs of American Indian students, and will take all appropriate and necessary steps within its prescribed power to plan for such programs. This student organization also plans and hosts the Lakota OmnicIye Wacipi (Pow-wow) every April.

AMERICAN INDIAN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (AISES)

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) is a national non-profit organization which nurtures building of community by bridging science and technology with traditional Native values. The goal of AISES is to serve as a catalyst for the advancement of American Indians and Alaska Natives as they seek to become self-reliant members of society. AISES also provides many students with valuable scholarships for college.



JOSIE DROBNY, CLASS OF 2018

Josie Drobny, a Black Hills State University student from Martin, completed a paid internship through Sanford Research aimed at preventing alcohol-exposed pregnancies among teenage girls living on the Pine Ridge Reservation. She presented her research results at the Great Plains Sociology Conference of 2018 in Aberdeen, where she earned first place in the research poster competition. Josie said the internship was a great opportunity to apply what she learned in her human services and sociology majors at BHSU.

“It was awesome to be in Pine Ridge and observe how programs like these are beneficial and to see first-hand that research is changing lives.”

KOTY JANIS, CLASS OF 2020

From the Oglala Lakota Nation, Koty Janis will graduate in the fall of 2020 with an American Indian Studies major. At the fall 2018 graduation ceremony, Janis was provided an opportunity to offer a prayer in Lakota for the graduates.

“BHSU allows me to bring Native American Awareness through the American Indian Studies department. Taku wašté ečhámičuŋ kiŋ líla phiwála. (I am thankful for the good things American Indian Studies does for me.)”



Where
Anything
is possible