American Indian Studies
Interdepartmental Program

APPLYING AS A GRADUATE STUDENT

Ranked among the top programs in American Indian Studies (AIS), the Master of Arts degree, interdepartmental program at UCLA draws from a wide variety of departments; students choose an area of concentration (History/Law/Policy, Economic Development, Social Relations or Language/Literature/Expressive Arts), acquiring skills that will enable them to conduct original research through the mentorship of over 27 AIS affiliated UCLA faculty.

Graduates of the program will be prepared to teach Native American studies, pursue specialized professional or graduate training; serve in an administrative roles in Native programs on/off the Reservation. Once in the program, a minimum of 10 courses are required with most students finishing the program in 6 quarters (two years), by writing a thesis or taking a comprehensive exam.

Associated Departments:
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Asian American Studies
- Chicano/a Studies
- Dentistry, School of
- Education
- Ethnomusicology
- Gender Studies
- History
- Information Studies
- Law
- Linguistics
- Nursing
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Public Policy
- Sociology
- Theatre
- World Arts & cultures

Before you Apply
- Review UCLA’s criteria for admission: [http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu](http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu)
- Identify faculty members that share your research interests (please contact academic coordinator for extended list of all AIS 27+ faculty)
- Check Dates & Deadlines [December 15]
- Check the program requirements for admission (listed on page 2)

In order to be eligible for graduate study at UCLA, you must have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution and a minimum scholastic average of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale)—or its equivalent if the letter grade system is not used—for the last 60 semester units or last 90 quarter units of undergraduate study and in any post-baccalaureate study.
How to Apply

Complete the UCLA Online Application for Graduate Admission: http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gasaa/admissions/applicat.htm

Supplemental Materials

As part of your Application, you will need:

- Official transcripts
- Statement of purpose
  *Include strengths, academic goals/interests and why you want to study American Indian Studies at UCLA.
  *Indicate what your future plans are with the MA degree.
- Three letters of recommendation
  *Past Instructors preferred
- Writing sample
  *Academic papers are preferred
- GRE score reports
  (recommended, but not required)
- Resume/CV
- Diversity Graduate Opportunity Fellowship application
  *This supplemental application is available through the online Graduate admission application

Questions, Comments or Concerns? Contact:
Clementine Bordeaux, Academic Coordinator
American Indian Studies Interdepartmental Program
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(310) 825 - 6541
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Tips for Writing Your:

STatement of Purpose

The primary goal in writing the statement of purpose is to formulate a cohesive narrative that connects academic work to self & community.

Introduce Yourself: Give the admission committee a sense of the person behind the application. Present yourself as a scholar with a sense of purpose and direction (i.e. which of your strengths will ensure your success?).

Relate Your Academic Work to Your Interests/Goals: Highlight your relevant academic work. (i.e. what goals are you working towards? Which classes, professors, papers, research prompted you to pursue graduate study?).

Convey Why Graduate Study at UCLA in AIS is Important: Your narrative should explain how the program will help you achieve your goals (i.e. which faculty members might you work? What resources does UCLA offer that could benefit your research?).

End on a Strong Note: Applicants to the AIS program are encouraged to include a detailed account of their background, potential career plan, and research interest as demonstrated by formal coursework, independent study or practical experience.