



Master of Arts degree in Diné Culture, Language & Leadership

**Master of Arts degree in
Diné Culture, Language & Leadership**

Course Description OUTLINE

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| Navajo 501-L | Navajo Linguistics & Theory | 3 credits |
| Navajo 511-L | Navajo Verb System | 3 credits |
| Navajo 620-L | Navajo Phonetic, Phonology, Semantic & Syntax | 3 credits |
| Navajo 551-C | Navajo Genesis & Theory | 3 credits |
| Navajo 555-C | Formation & Foundation of Navajo Thought | 3 credits |
| Navajo 655-C | Navajo Identity, Gender & Personhood | 3 credits |
| Navajo 570-Ld | Navajo Theoretical Leadership | 3 credits |
| Navajo 571-Ld | Navajo Government, Law & Politics | 3 credits |
| Navajo 680-Ld | Navajo Traditional Leadership & Philosophy | 3 credits |
| Statistic 513 | Statistical Analysis | 3 credits |
| Navajo 690 | Navajo Research Methodology | 3 credits |
| Navajo 691 | Thesis | 6 credits |
| | | 39 credits |

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- Navajo 501-L Navajo Linguistics & Theory 3 credits**
Linguistic theories include syntax, phonology, morphology and semantics. These topics will be dealt with intensely in the course. The Navajo language will be deconstructed and analyzed with each topic and each theory with the course topics will be explored.
- Navajo 511-L Navajo Verb System 3 credits**
The verb stem of Navajo language will be investigated intensely in this course. Other similar languages from the Athabaskan languages will be a major part of this class. Students will learn how the Navajo verb provides the core base of the language.
- Navajo 620-L Navajo Morphology, Phonology, Semantics & Syntax 3 credits**
Each topic listed in the course title will be studied in detail so that students thoroughly understand their construction and use within the Navajo language.
- Navajo 551-C Navajo Genesis & Theory 3 credits**
With the help of traditional medicine people of the Navajo Nation, the students will learn the intricacy of the Navajo Creation Stories. Theoretical issues will be discussed and learned in both the Navajo and the English language.
- Navajo 555-C Formation & Foundation of Navajo Thought 3 credits**
The first four set of elements in the Navajo Creation Stories discusses the first word. With it, first thought took place. This course will address how thought and speech correlates and further explore what precedes thought and speech, and what occurs with words after they are spoken. Cultural theories from various global ethnic communities will be a part of this course work.
- Navajo 655-C Navajo Identity, Gender & Personhood 3 credits**
Due to the ever-present processes of assimilation and acculturation, Navajo identity has become a challenge for many Navajo people, even within Navajo Nation. Along with gender variance, the contemporary Navajo world bridges its gender construction into the dominant American cultural version of personhood. Past, present and future understanding of this topic will be explored in both the Navajo and the English languages.
- Navajo 570-Ld Navajo Theoretical Leadership 3 credits**
The historical, traditional and cultural meaning and evolution of traditional leadership will be analyzed in detailed in this course. Community and tribal (Nation) leaders will be active participants as part of this course discussion.

- Navajo 571-Ld Navajo Government, Law & Politics** **3 credits**
 The history of traditional Navajo law and government will be studied in this course. A Western concept of politics has evolved into the current Navajo form of politics. This course explores how Western politics has changed or not changed traditional Navajo perspectives on Navajo Nation governance and its agenda will be thoroughly discussed.
- Navajo 680-Ld Navajo Traditional Leadership & Philosophy** **3 credits**
 The Navajo core cultural philosophy, Sa'ah Naagha Bik'en Hózhó, and its four guiding cultural principles, Nitsákáhees, Nahát'á, Íina and Siih Hasin, will be used to understand the Navajo traditional concept of leadership and how Navajo cultural philosophy and principles are rooted in the core philosophy and guiding principles.
- Statistic 513 Statistical Analysis** **3 credits**
 This graduate course is an introduction to statistics, probability, elementary probability, its theories and applications. It will include sampling theory, estimation and its applications, and methods of analysis including regression, tests of independence and analysis of variance and so forth. Students will learn how each of its application is essential in and to the program.
- Navajo 690 Navajo Research Methodology** **3 credits**
 Navajo ethnographic research, including qualitative and quantitative, methodologies will be taught in this class. Students will learn how to do culturally appropriate research work with Navajo elders. Students will learn and use Navajo kinship, greeting, eye-to-non-eye contact skills, investing in oral communication without writing tools, and so forth. The difference of qualitative and quantitative will be addressed. Alongside with research methodologies of interviewing techniques and other aspects utilized in conducting ethnographic research work will be explored.
- Navajo 691 Thesis** **6 credits**
 A topic will be presented by the student to his/her Master Thesis committee. With the approval of the Committee the student will conduct, either ethnographically or library based research. The research topic approved by the Committee will be based on a need by the Navajo Nation.

39 credits