

**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS**  
**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan**  
**PhD in Indigenous Studies**

Center for Cross Cultural Studies/College of Liberal Arts  
November 27, 2018

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The **Indigenous Studies PhD** program is to draw and build upon the academic and research capabilities at UAF to offer an integrated course of advanced graduate study that addresses long-standing issues of concern to the state, the nation and the world. The program will consist of a common core curriculum that all students will complete, coupled with five thematic areas of emphasis from which students will choose a concentration: indigenous research; indigenous knowledge systems; indigenous education; indigenous languages; indigenous leadership; and indigenous sustainability.

**GOAL STATEMENTS:**

1. To provide the programmatic infrastructure for advanced, in-depth, interdisciplinary graduate studies and research in academic fields related to the role of indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing in the contemporary world.
2. To prepare graduates who are capable of conducting basic and applied research on social, political, educational, economic and cultural issues of concern to people and communities in the circumpolar north, with a particular emphasis on Alaska.
3. To expand the pool of knowledgeable and highly skilled Alaskans who can assume leadership and technical positions with public and private sector organizations, including universities, school districts, social service agencies, Native corporations, tribal governments, and state and federal agencies in Alaska and beyond.
4. To provide a venue to sponsor state, national and international seminars, conferences, exchanges and comparative research programs that bring people together around issues of concern to Alaska, the circumpolar north, and indigenous people throughout the world.
5. To contribute to and tap into newly emerging bodies of academic scholarship that address the role of indigenous knowledge systems in fields such as ecological studies, natural resources management, health care, education, language revitalization, community development, social services, justice, and Native studies.
6. To achieve economies-of-scale that put existing university resources and capabilities to more effective and efficient use in addressing issues of concern to all Alaskans.

*Submitted by: M. Koskey*

Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
Apply knowledge and skills gained in implementing practical solutions to real-world problems	Research proposal IRB proposal Comprehensive exam 1  Thesis	Research proposal approval by graduate committee; committee chair signs as PI on student research  Program chair and dean approve after dissertation defense
Compare and analyze the epistemological properties, worldviews and modes of transmission associated with various indigenous knowledge systems (Alaska emphasis)	Successful completion of coursework, including CCS608-Indigenous Knowledge Systems  Written comprehensive exams Oral comprehensive exam	Instructor(s) Grade of "B" or better  Graduate chair and committee evaluate and approve written exams prior to scheduling oral defense.
Apply principles of Indigenous research methodologies and methods	Successful completion of coursework including CCS604: Documenting Indigenous Knowledge, or RD650: Community-Based Research  Comprehensive exam 3	Instructor(s) Grade of "B" or better  Graduate committee chair Graduate committee
Conduct research relevant to the people and communities of the circumpolar north, with a particular emphasis on Alaska	Successful completion of coursework including CCS604: Documenting Indigenous Knowledge, or RD650: Community-Based Research  Research proposal IRB approval Comprehensive exam 3	Instructor(s) Grade of "B" or better  Graduate committee chair Graduate committee
Graduate level discussion, synthesis and analysis of Indigenous studies literature	Successful completion of coursework  Comprehensive exam 2	Instructor(s) Grade "B" or better  Graduate committee chair Graduate committee
Effective collaboration with Indigenous peoples	Development of collaborative research agenda; successful completion and dissemination of research	Graduate committee chair Graduate committee  Program chair collects data on student conference presentations and publications
Actively contribute to Indigenous academic scholarship	Dissertation completion Conference presentations Publications	Program chair collects data on student conference presentations and publications Graduate publications posted on ANKN ( <a href="http://ankn.uaf.edu/Curriculum/articles.html#grad">http://ankn.uaf.edu/Curriculum/articles.html#grad</a> )