



## **ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

### *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Global Indigenous Nations Studies Program at the University of Kansas is to foster and promote scholarship focused on understanding the experiences and improving the lives of Indigenous Peoples around the world. The program accomplishes this goal by supporting faculty research, student training, and applied efforts. It promotes cross-cultural perspectives by encouraging critical thinking and the generation of new knowledge concerning issues such as globalization, decolonization, empowerment, tribal sovereignty, ethnic and legal identity, social injustice, traditional beliefs, languages, public health, environmental resource management, and human rights. The program prepares students for careers in education, research, and applied disciplines by providing them with an interdisciplinary perspective on the study of Indigenous Peoples.

### *The Program*

The University of Kansas established the Global Indigenous Nations Studies Program (GINSP) in 1999 as an interdisciplinary master's degree program that equips graduates to conduct theoretical and applied research and to develop innovative solutions to issues facing Indigenous communities. Through a rigorous program of study, GINSP prepares graduates to assume leadership and policy-making roles in a variety of

professions. Collaboration with other departments and programs enriches the educational and developmental opportunities of GINSP students. GINSP possesses long-standing relationships with the Tribal Law and Government Center at the University of Kansas Law School and Haskell Indian Nations University. In addition, GINSP offers the opportunity to study abroad, including a World Indigenous Graduate Exchange Program (WIGE) with University of Oulu, Finland, and University of Newcastle, Australia, to expose our students to global Indigenous issues.

## *Program Administration*

The GINSP is supported by a wide variety of faculty and staff. Their responsibilities include the following roles:

- **Professor John Hoopes, Director of the GINSP.** Administrates and provides direction and vision for the Program.
- **Professor Sharon O'Brien, GINSP Graduate Coordinator.** Principal contact for graduate students.
- **Betty Pickerel, Administrative Associate.** Assists with GINSP daily operations. Maintains communication and student records.
- **Marion Dyer, Senior Administrative Associate.** Manages GINSP financial operations, including payroll and budget. Maintains GINSP website.

The Executive, Admissions & Scholarship, Curriculum and Student Advising, and Recruitment Committees, comprised of GINSP faculty, assist the Director in determining program requirements, admission of students and general program functions.

For further information or to contact the Director, call the GINSP office at 785-864-2660 or email [indigenous@ku.edu](mailto:indigenous@ku.edu).

## *GINSP Faculty*

The GINSP Faculty comprise the following categories.

### **Regular Faculty**

Faculty members with at least a .50 FTE tenured or tenure-track appointment in the GINSP. The Regular Faculty may recommend outside faculty for Affiliated Faculty membership.

### **Affiliated Faculty**

Faculty who offer cross-listed or relevant courses and/or participate in research on Indigenous Peoples whose qualifications and interests make affiliate membership mutually desirable. The GINSP Regular Faculty may recommend individuals for Affiliated Faculty membership. Affiliated Faculty serve for terms of three years, with the possibility of renewal. Affiliated Faculty are expected to contribute to the program's activities, including student advising. In accordance with University procedures, Affiliated Faculty can have either Courtesy (for KU faculty) or Adjunct (for non-KU faculty) appointments for terms of three years and one year, respectively.

## Core Faculty

Regular and Affiliated Faculty, who have been appointed by the Director in consultation with Regular Faculty, to participate in program governance, teaching, research, and service. The Core Faculty comprise the voting members of the program and are expected to attend GINSP faculty meetings, mentor students, and serve on program and graduate committees.

For the most recent list of GINSP Faculty, refer to the GINSP website.  
(indigenous.ku.edu)

## *GINSP Committees*

### Committee Membership & General Committee Responsibilities

The Director will appoint Program Committee members from Regular and Core Faculty for terms of up to two years. All Program Committees report to the Executive Committee, which votes on committee recommendations.

### Executive Committee

This committee is the primary governing body of the program and is responsible for setting policies and procedures and voting on recommendations from other Program Committees.

### Admission and Scholarship Committee

This committee is responsible for recommending GINSP admissions policies, reviewing applications, and recommending new students for admission. It is also responsible for determining eligibility and allocating scholarship funds to new and current graduate students.

### Curriculum and Student Advising Committee

This committee is responsible for making curriculum policy and monitoring student progress.

### Recruitment Committee

This committee is responsible for recruiting new students into the Program through presentations at Haskell Indian Nations University, professional meetings, and other venues. It is also responsible for overseeing the production of all brochures, fliers, and the recruitment portion of the Program website, and for contacting educational directors of tribes and advising personnel at tribal colleges and other institutions.

## *Core Values and Principles for the GINSP, Faculty, Staff, and Students*

The Global Indigenous Nations Studies Program has identified the following core values and principles as important guidelines in the formulation, assessment, and future development of the Program's personnel, teaching, and research. These values should also guide the GINSP community of faculty, staff, and students in their behavior, attitudes, and responsibilities towards one another.

***Sovereignty*** To study, respect, and support the sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples.

***Justice*** To challenge all forms of injustice, especially those directed at Indigenous Peoples.

***Service*** To assist local, national, and global Indigenous communities with economic, political, and social issues through public service, education, and research.

***Respect*** To behave in a respectful manner towards the communities and environments we inhabit. To show courtesy and respect to elders and future generations.

***Responsibility*** To show accountability, maturity, and independence in one's thoughts and actions.

***Integrity*** To behave in an honest and honorable manner in matters of academic presentation, ethnic identity, interpersonal communication and relationships.

***Diversity*** To promote cultural and intellectual diversity. To value and learn from differences in experience, belief, perspective, and opinion.

***Freedom*** To understand and exercise both the rights and responsibilities of academic freedom.

***Competence*** To acquire and exhibit competence within individual areas of professional and cultural expertise.

***Scholarship*** To be educated and informed on issues relevant to Indigenous Peoples in the U.S. and the global community.

## *Misconduct and Grievance Procedures*

### Student Academic Misconduct

GINSP follows the Rules and Regulations of the University Senate. Complete information provided at the following website:

<http://www2.ku.edu/~clasus/policies/conduct.shtml>

### Student Grievance Procedures

#### *GINSP Grievance Procedures*

- If you wish to make a complaint involving a GINSP Regular or Affiliated Faculty or staff member, or concerning GINSP policies or decisions, you may seek redress by presenting the grievance in writing to the GINSP Director.
- If the Director cannot resolve the matter, the Director will forward the grievance to the GINSP Executive Committee.
- If no resolution is forthcoming, you may proceed with the appropriate University Grievances Procedures.
- You may also wish to contact the University Ombudsman Office.

#### *KU Graduate Grievance Procedures*

Complete information provided at the following website:

<https://documents.ku.edu/policies/research/grievanceresearchandgradstudies.htm>

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