

CURRICULUM

GINSP Degree Requirements

The University of Kansas requires all Master's students to complete a minimum of 30 credit hours at the graduate level and to pass an oral exam.

The GINSP requires you to complete a minimum of 30 credit hours:

- Three required core courses (9 hours).
- Three specialized electives relevant to the Area of Specialization (9 hours).
- Three additional electives (9 hours).
- Completion of a M.A. thesis or non-thesis option (3 hours).
 - You must successfully defend a thesis or non-thesis project (This requirement also serves to meet the University requirement to pass a Master's oral exam).

Required GINSP Core Courses

You are required to take the following three core courses. GINSP may offer these courses only once each year, so please plan accordingly.

GINS 804 Introduction to Indigenous Nations Graduate Studies (3)

This course has two goals: 1) the development of academic writing skills, and 2) the development of professional skills necessary to a successful completion of your M.A. degree. This course introduces students to the academic discipline of Global Indigenous Nations Studies, its debates and contours, history, methods, and resources. The course analyses key discipline words, terms, and theories; focuses on critical thinking, reading, writing, and research skills; and emphasizes academic and professional development. Guest lectures from GINSP faculty members, KU librarians, informational technology staff, and members of the Writing Center complement and broaden class assignments and discussions.

GINS 800 Research Methods and Indigenous Peoples (3)

The principle objective of this course is to introduce students to qualitative and quantitative research methods of investigation and analysis used in the discipline of Global Indigenous Nations Studies. The nature of data sources, methods of data collection, the logic of social scientific inquiry, and key methods of data analysis are emphasized. In addition, the course examines the social and educational interpretations, validity, and implications of this multi- and interdisciplinary area of study.

GINS 802 Indigenous Peoples of the World (3)

More than 350 million Indigenous peoples around the world confront threats against their populations, lands, resources, and cultures through the imposition of external economic, political, and social controls. To address these threats, Indigenous Peoples are organizing at community, national, regional, and global levels to seek recognition for and legal protection of their rights. The course examines how different Indigenous

communities around the world perceive and strive to preserve, improve, and develop their land rights, economies, health, and political sovereignties.

Areas of Specialization

During your first semester of enrollment, you should begin assembling a three-member faculty committee to design an Area of Specialization (AS) plan or individualized curriculum. The AS plan is an outline of classes that you, in consultation with your Faculty Advisor and Faculty Advisory Committee, will design to ensure that your coursework is academically and methodologically suited to your educational and career objectives. The AS plan must be justified in advance as a concentrated area of study and expertise.

Area of Specialization Plan (AS)

- You must complete a minimum of 30 graduate credit hours, depending upon your chosen Area of Specialization.

- Your AS curriculum must include
 - Three GINSP Core Courses (a minimum of 9 hours).
 - Three courses that serve as specialized electives (minimum of 9 hours).
 - Three additional electives (minimum of 9 hours).
 - Three credit hours of GINS 899 Master's Thesis or GINS 898 Non-Thesis Master's.

- Approved directed readings, distance learning courses, internships, study abroad courses, and transfer credits may be included in your individualized Area of Specialization.
- Refer to **Appendix B** for example plans of Areas of Specialization. You may adopt one of these, a variation, or a completely differently designed Area of Specialization depending upon your academic objectives.

Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)

- You should work with a committee of *at least* three faculty members to develop your Area of Specialization (AS).
- All Faculty Advisory Committee members must have Graduate Faculty status.
- Two members of the Faculty Advisory Committee must be from the GINSP Regular or Affiliated Faculty, one of whom serves as Chair.
- Both your Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) and the GINSP Curriculum and Student Advising Committee must approve your AS plan.

Creating Your Committee and Area of Specialization Plan

1. Request a GINSP Regular or Affiliated Faculty member to chair your Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC). (This individual can be your Faculty Advisor or another faculty member.)
2. In consultation with your Chair:
 - Determine at least two additional faculty members with knowledge relevant to your AS to be members of your FAC.
 - Draft a preliminary outline of your AS for submission to your FAC.
3. The Chair of your Faculty Advisory Committee will convene a meeting of the FAC and you to discuss, suggest, and approve your Area of Specialization plan. **(See Form B)**
4. After your Faculty Advisory Committee has approved your AS, **submit Form B** to the GINSP Curriculum and Student Advising Committee for final approval.

Additional Curricular Options

Directed Readings Credit

You may enroll in 1-3 hours of **GINSP 806: Directed Reading** credits. To enroll, you must obtain the consent and a permission number of the faculty member with whom you intend to work. You may not enroll in Directed Reading credits your first semester in the program.

Once a faculty member has agreed to guide your Directed Reading, you must work in conjunction with that faculty member to complete **Form H: Directed Readings** (Appendix G), which includes an outline of your planned work.

All Students are required to submit **Form H** to the Curriculum and Student Advising Committee for their approval within the semester's first month. Failure to turn in **Form H** and to obtain approval, as required, may prevent directed reading credit from counting towards graduation.

Students may count a maximum of six (6) hours of approved Directed Readings towards their degree.

Internships

Depending upon your AS, you may be required to complete an Internship. Internships in such Areas of Specialization as Cultural Preservation Management and Language Documentation and Revitalization, for example, are generally required portions of your

training. Internships are an important component to discuss with your committee when drafting your AS.

An internship provides students with an opportunity to obtain training and perform professional duties for academic credit at pre-approved agencies and organizations.

An internship provides you with an opportunity to:

- Obtain training and perform professional duties for academic credit at pre-approved agencies and organizations.
- Apply theoretical knowledge in a professional setting.
- Obtain the professional skills and knowledge outlined in your contract.
- Gain relevant career experience.

See **Appendix C** for further information regarding Faculty Supervisor's Duties, Credit Hours and Grading, Internship Process, Required Documents for Final Internship Portfolio, and Frequently Asked Questions.

See **Appendix G** for the required Internship Forms.

Study Abroad

With your FAC's approval, you may attend study abroad programs that will provide you with a broader and comparative knowledge of Indigenous issues and worldviews, enhance cross-Indigenous cultural understanding, and increase career opportunities in Indigenous specialty areas.

One such option is the World Indigenous Graduate Exchange Program (WIGE), which includes the University of Kansas Global Indigenous Nations Studies Program, the Wollotuka School of Aboriginal Studies Newcastle, Australia, and Giellagas Institute, Department of Saami Studies, Oulu, Finland. WIGE is a collaborative programme that offers students from each university, an opportunity to develop a comparative understanding of the Indigenous Peoples of North America, Australia, and the Saami land in Europe. The Exchange Program allows students to engage in an initial core program of study at their home institution, attend classes at one or more of the currently affiliated institutions, and complete a comparative research project on a topic of choice.

See **Appendix D: World Indigenous Graduate Exchange Program (WIGE)** for additional information regarding objectives, application process, curriculum, and financial assistance for these programs.

Joint Degree Program in Law and & GINSP (JD/MA)

The University of Kansas established a joint (dual) degree program in Law and Global Indigenous Nations Studies in 2005. One of only three universities in the United States offering such a joint degree program, our program is unique for its focus on the survival,

strengthening, self-sufficiency, and mutual support of the more than 350 million Indigenous Peoples around the globe.

If you successfully complete this unique program, you will earn a *Juris Doctor* degree (J.D.) and the Masters of Arts degree (M.A.) in Global Indigenous Nations Studies. This program is well-suited for anyone who intends to become a leader and policy-maker for Indigenous communities. In addition, the joint J.D. /M.A. program provides students the opportunity to participate in the Tribal Law Certificate Program, the Tribal Judicial Support Clinic, and to attend the annual Tribal Law and Government Conference.

See **Appendix E: Joint Degree Program in Law and Global Indigenous Nations Studies** for further information concerning the Program's objectives, application process, curriculum, and financial assistance.

Program Progress

- GINSP provides for and expects the completion of the M.A. in two years of full-time study.
- You are required to submit an updated **Form C: Course Progress** (Appendix G) at the beginning of each semester to the Administrative Associate, the Graduate Coordinator, and your Faculty Advisor.
- No more than seven (7) years may lapse between your initial enrollment and completion of all requirements for the degree. For example, if you start your course work in the Fall 2010 semester, you must complete all degree requirements before the first class day of the Fall semester 2017.
- In cases in which compelling reasons or circumstances recommend a one-year extension of the normal seven-year limit, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS), on recommendation of the department/committee, has authority to grant you a one-year extension.
- If you request more than a total of eight years, the appropriate appeals body of the college, school, or division will consider petitions for further extensions and, *where evidence of continuous progress, currency of knowledge, and other reasons are compelling, may grant further extensions.*

Complete information about policies on satisfactory progress is provided at the following website: <http://www.catalogs.ku.edu/graduate/03GRGeneralInfo05.pdf>

Course Load

- A normal, full-time enrollment is nine (9) credit hours per semester and six (6) hours for the summer session.
- If you have a part-time graduate teaching assistantship (GTA) or graduate research assistantship (GRA), you will have a proportionate reduction in required course load.
- U.S. immigration laws require International students to be enrolled full-time, i.e., for nine (9) credit hours, unless it is your first or final semester. Summer enrollment is optional.

Dropping or Adding a Course

Refer to the important deadlines for dropping and adding a course after the semester has begun. If you fail to drop a course by the required University deadline, you will receive a W or F on your transcript, even if you have never attended the course.

Complete information about dropping and adding courses is provided at the following website: <http://www.registrar.ku.edu/enrollment/index.shtml>

Incompletes

- An “incomplete” occurs when an instructor agrees to submit a grade of “I” for work that has not been completed due to exceptional circumstances.
- You should not request or expect an incomplete grade except in the case of an unavoidable emergency (serious illness, accident, etc.)
- An incomplete will be granted *only* at the discretion of the instructor teaching the course.
- An incomplete should be resolved as soon as possible. GINSP may not permit you to enroll in additional coursework, including Thesis/Non-Thesis credit hours, if you have six (6) or more credit hours of incompletes.
- If you have more than one incomplete, you are ineligible for GINSP scholarships and employment in the GINSP office.

Probation

- The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS) automatically places you on probation if your cumulative graduate grade point average (GPA) falls below a B (3.00).
- If you are placed on probation, you will be dismissed from the program if you do not raise your GPA above 3.00 in the following semester.

Failure to Enroll Policies

- You are expected to remain enrolled during the Fall and Spring semesters until the completion of your Master’s Degree.
- If you do not plan to enroll in a succeeding Spring or Fall semester, you must notify the GINSP Graduate Coordinator in writing of your intention as soon as possible.

Leave of Absence

- If you cannot enroll for two consecutive semesters, you must obtain permission from GINSP *and* CLAS to take a Leave of Absence.
- The steps below outline the procedure for obtaining an approved Leave of Absence.

Step 1. Send the following information to the GINSP Graduate Coordinator and to your Faculty Advisor:

- A. A letter with the following information:
 - The duration of requested leave (not to exceed one calendar year).
 - A brief explanation of reasons for your requested leave.

- A proposed timeline for completion of your Master's degree.
- B. You may obtain a petition form from:
<http://www.clas.ku.edu/students/gradstudents.shtml>.

- Step 2. The GINSP Graduate Coordinator will consult with your Faculty Advisor regarding your requested leave.
- Step 3. Following discussions with the Faculty Advisor, the Graduate Coordinator will transmit a Leave of Absence request to the GINSP Executive Committee for their approval or denial.
- Step 4. If approved, the GINSP Office will forward to CLAS your letter, petition, and a letter of support from the Graduate Coordinator, co-signed by your Faculty Advisor, to CLAS for final determination.
- Step 5. CLAS must approve All Leave of Absence requests. If CLAS approves your request, GINSP will hold your place in the program for one calendar year.
- Step 6. Re-enrollment in GINSP
- After completion of the approved Leave of Absence, you must fill out and submit the "Domestic Student Application for Permit to Re-Enroll" form to the University of Kansas Graduate Application Processing Center (GAPC).
 - You can download this form from:
http://www.graduate.ku.edu/-downloads/05-d8_dom_per_Feb-06.pdf.
 - Once GAPC receives the completed form, they will contact GINSP to ensure that the Program has permitted you to re-enroll.

Reactivation after Voluntary Withdrawal

- If you voluntarily withdraw from GINSP, your place in the program will not be retained and your reactivation is not guaranteed. If you have withdrawn and wish to reactivate your standing, you must request GINSP to reactivate your standing.
- To request reactivation, you must provide the Graduate Coordinator with a letter that includes the following:
 - An explanation of your reasons for having voluntary withdrawal.
 - An explanation why you are requesting reactivation.
 - A timeline for completion of your Master's program.
 - New letters of recommendation, if required by the Graduate Coordinator.
- The Graduate Coordinator will transmit the above information to the GINSP Executive Committee for approval or denial of your reactivation request.
- If GINSP grants you permission to reactive your status, you must submit a completed "Domestic Student Application for Permit to Re-Enroll" form to the University of Kansas Graduate Application Processing Center (GAPC).
- Students can download this form from:
http://www.graduate.ku.edu/-downloads/05-d8_dom_per_Feb-06.pdf.

- GAPC will contact GINSP when your permit to re-enroll has been approved.

Important Additional Policies

- You must remain continuously enrolled in at least one (1) credit hour each consecutive Fall and Spring semester until graduation.
- You must complete at least 60% of your course work at the 700-level or above.
- The seven-year maximum time limit for completion of the degree does not include leaves of absence or periods during which a student has withdrawn from the program.
- Unless GINSP has granted you a Leave of Absence, your progress is considered as unsatisfactory, and you are subject to dismissal if you fail to enroll.
- You must stay in contact with your Faculty Advisor to ensure that you are making satisfactory progress.
- If you are dismissed, you will not be permitted to apply to any other graduate program in the College.
- You are required to follow all new policy changes, at the time they become effective, with the exception of changes in required courses and/or credit hours.
- Requirements for courses and/or credit hours in effect at the time of your admission will remain in effect until you graduate.