

American Indian Studies & Wisconsin Act 31



What is Wisconsin Act 31?

- The 1989-1991 biennial budget bill addressed several educational needs and included provisions requiring the study of Wisconsin American Indian history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the federally-recognized tribes and bands in the state.
- This budget also appropriated funding for the American Indian Studies Program at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Wisconsin Act 31 Created the Following Statutory Sections

- S. 115.28(17)(d), Wis. Stats.
- s. 118.01(c)7-8, Wis. Stats.
- s. 118.19(8), Wis. Stats.
- s. 121.02(1)(h), Wis. Stats.
- s. 121.02(1)(L)4, Wis. Stats.

s. 115.28(17)(d), Wis. Stats. *Treaty Rights Curriculum*

The state superintendent shall:

In conjunction with the American Indian Language and Culture Education Board, develop a curriculum for grades 4 to 12 on the Chippewa Indian's treaty-based, off-reservation rights to hunt, fish, and gather.

s. 118.01(c)7-8, Wis. Stats.

Human Relations

Each school board shall provide an instructional program designed to give pupils:

7. An appreciation and understanding of different value systems and cultures.
8. At all grade levels, an understanding of human relations, particularly with regard to American Indians, Black Americans, and Hispanics.

s. 118.19(8), Wis. Stats.

Teacher Certification

- Beginning July 1, 1991, the state superintendent may not grant to any person a license to teach unless the person has received instruction in the study of minority group relations, including the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized tribes and bands located in the state.

s. 121.02(1)(h), Wis. Stats. *Instructional Materials*

Each school board shall:

Provide adequate instructional materials, texts, and library services which reflect the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society.

s. 121.02(1)(L)4, Wis. Stats. *K-12 Social Studies Instruction*

Each school board shall:

Beginning September 1, 1991, as part of the social studies curriculum, include instruction in the history, culture, and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in the state of Wisconsin at least twice in the elementary grades and at least once in the high school grades.

American Indian Studies Program – Activities and Services

- Presenting at conferences, workshops, and in-services.
- Organizing or assisting with planning of conferences, workshops, etc. including the annual Wisconsin American Indian Studies Summer Institute.
- Developing, acquiring, and/or disseminating instructional resources.

American Indian Studies Program – Activities and Services

- Collecting and disseminating pertinent information.
- Serving as DPI liaison to tribal communities, and other associations and organizations, such as the Great Lakes Intertribal Council (GLITC), Wisconsin Indian Education Association (WIEA), and Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations.

American Indian Studies Program – DPI Publications

Instructional Resources

Classroom Activities on Chippewa Treaty Rights (1991,
Bulletin #2150)

Classroom Activities in State and Local Government
(1989, Bulletin #9446)

*Classroom Activities on Wisconsin Indian Treaties and
Tribal Sovereignty* (Bulletin 1996, #6156)

American Indian Studies Program – DPI Publications

Reference and other materials:

American Indian Studies Resource Manual for Public Libraries (1992, Bulletin #2429)

Indian Government and Law Series (1990, Bulletin #0940)

See also *Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults* (1991, 1996) by the Cooperative Children's Book Center.

American Indian Studies Program – Web Page

- Announcements, Calendar, Fact Sheet, Updates
- State Statutes for Wisconsin American Indian Studies
- Web Links to Resources
- Publications for American Indian Studies
- Bibliography Series for American Indian Studies

American Indian Studies Program – Web Page

- Grants and Professional Development Opportunities
- Language and Culture Education Licenses
- wi-aislist - Wisconsin American Indian Studies Listserv
- Wisconsin American Indian Studies Summer Institute

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