

The Nature of Community

A Coordinated Program of Individualized Study
1979-80

The Nature of Community is the 1979-80 offering of the Native American Studies advanced interdisciplinary specialty area. NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES is an alternative school of thought designed in education episodes emphasizing the following disciplines: LISTEN, PERFORM, QUESTION, SYMBOLIZE. Programs in this school of thought invite students to participate in their own learning relative to developing an individualized community participatory network -- their own designed important human relationships. The programs promote personal selection to reshape the students' capacity to think, to do and to believe within a present future for which we must learn to cultivate the most flexible and complex process of life human modeling for living.

Program Faculty: Mary Ellen Hillaire (LUMMI), Coordinator;
David Whitener (SQUAXIN); Maxine Mims,
Elizabeth Diffendal, Lovern King (TSALAGEE),
Russ Fox

Enrollment: 140
Prerequisites: none
Special expenses: audiotapes
Part-time options: yes
Modules: may be taken concurrently with the program
Internships: yes

The Nature of Community is planned as a program of individual and group activities which will explore the concept of community -- those functional abstracts that we internalize so that we are not alone, even when we are not together. The program will give students an opportunity to explore community in terms of TIME, SPACE, BODY and PLACE.

The program will have an on-campus component each Monday during which the faculty team will explore the various aspects of "community." On four separate occasions during the year, the program will offer campus-wide forums on the following themes: Classroom Teaching, Community Based Learning, Concept Images, Student Centered Administration. In addition, the multi-ethnic program faculty will be available to students to develop various models for community-based studies appropriate to the interests of participating students.

Program objectives for The Nature of Community include the following:

- The student, through learning episodes, will develop an understanding of his/her own social constructs that promote his/her need of community.
- Through designed activities, the student will experience community composition. Faculty specialties brought to these activities include philosophy, education administration, anthropology, communications, community education and urban planning.
- The student, through individual student/faculty relationships will come to periodic consensus about education direction and education resource selection.
- Through campuswide forums, students will develop the understanding of negotiation of role and position in aggregates of unrelated persons.