



The Australian Journal of **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION**

This article was originally published in printed form. The journal began in 1973 and was titled *The Aboriginal Child at School*. In 1996 the journal was transformed to an internationally peer-reviewed publication and renamed *The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education*.

In 2022 *The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education* transitioned to fully Open Access and this article is available for use under the license conditions below.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

OVERSEAS: Native Studies at the University of Saskatchewan

We recently received exchange material from The Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) at Saskatoon, Canada. A brief description of the program might be of interest to those readers involved in adult and teacher education courses for Aboriginal students.

SUNTEP is a four-year off campus Teacher Education Program offered through the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research in co-operation with the Department of Education and the University of Saskatchewan and Regina. It is an enriched program leading to a B.Ed. degree, designed specifically for Metis and Non-Status Indian students who might not otherwise attend university. The program has a number of unique aspects including -

- Extensive practise teaching within the schools, starting after the first month of the first year. Students spend one day a week in the classroom, over and above the normal internship period.
- Two required classes each in Cross-Cultural Education and in Native Studies.
- Strong support services in counselling and guidance.
- Academic classes correlated to the objectives of the program.
- A supportive environment where students and faculty can work together and assist one another when difficulties arise.

One component of the program is that of *Native Studies*, which consists of five areas of study -

General - Included in this area are courses on the operations of the Native Community, the relationship of government agencies to Native societies, local government programs, family and individual life patterns of Native people, as well as the philosophy and religion of Native peoples.

Pre-professional - Graduates in Native Studies will be entering the professions. As career preparation, the department will offer seminar courses designed to familiarize students with the professional fields in which a degree in Native Studies would be an asset, if not a prerequisite: Social Welfare, Health, Education, Law, Recreation and Community Development, to name a few.

Research - This is an area of study which examines the application of various research methods to the Native Studies field. The introductory survey will acquaint students with the theory and practice of Native Studies research. Senior seminars will focus on an

in-depth study of several Native research projects, as well as on a research practicum in the Native community.

History - Courses will chronicle the events and issues which shaped the evolution of Native societies. Special emphasis will be placed on historiography and the importance of critical awareness in assessing historical development.

Languages - The curriculum highlights a three-pronged approach: 1. fluency, 2. specialized knowledge necessary to teach Native languages, and 3. research and development of the languages. Courses in Cree, Saulteaux, Sioux, Chipewyan and perhaps Inuktitut will be available in the near future.

Other courses for Metis and Non-Status Indian students conducted by the Institute include the Recreation Technology Program (2 year certificate) designed to train qualified recreation workers, a Human Resource Development Program (2 year certificate) to train students in management or counselling, and a Native Studies Instructors Program (1 year certificate) which enables students to teach Native Studies to adult learners in Saskatchewan.

To find out more about the Gabriel Dumont Institute, the Institute might be approached directly:

Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research
121 Broadway Avenue East,
Regina, Saskatchewan
CANADA S4N 0Z6

.....

THE ABORIGINAL CHILD AT SCHOOL

A National Journal for Teachers of Aborigines

5 issues per year - February/March.....October/November

Subscription: Australia - Individuals, Institutions, Libraries,
etc. - \$10.00
Teacher Aides - \$ 5.00

Overseas - \$15 Aust. (surface mail)
\$25 Aust. (air mail)

Payable to: The Aboriginal Child at School
(Munro Street)
University of Queensland
St Lucia, Q. 4067

.....