



NORTHEASTERN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Northeastern State University Fall 2023 Enrollment Information

*American Indian
Profile*

American Indian Scholar Profile

Joseph Cloud is a member of the Cherokee Nation from Chelsea, Oklahoma.

Cloud received a bachelor's degree in Cherokee Cultural Studies with a minor in drama from Northeastern State University in the spring of 2023.

"When I discovered the Cherokee Cultural Studies program at NSU, I set up a meeting with Dr. Candessa Tehee and quickly knew that this program was the right fit," Cloud said. "It would provide an opportunity to return to the Cherokee Nation, become an advocate for Cherokee culture and community values, as well as give me a solid base of knowledge in Cherokee language and worldview to build upon in the future."

As a non-traditional student, Cloud returned to higher education after a 20-year break. He said that he relied heavily on programs and projects that were run by the Center for Tribal Studies and the many people involved that helped him succeed.

"Shelley Dreadfulwater and the grant-funded staff of the Native American Support Center were key to finding my footing," Cloud said. "From being invited to make kvnuchi for the first time with Trey Pritchett in the CTS kitchen, to being able to take trips to Native conferences, the Center for Tribal Studies provided a place for belonging and kinship with other Native students. Gaelen Rose was instrumental in keeping me connected throughout my time at NSU and remains a great friend and confidant as an alumnus."

While at NSU, Cloud joined the Native American Student Association. As an alumnus, he still works alongside the department to further ideate and support work being done today.

"Through this work I was able to attend the American Indian Studies Association conference at Arizona State University in Mesa, Arizona and present alongside a panel of professors and professionals working on Indigenous issues that involve mapping and truthful history of the land and places we live our lives," Cloud said.

Returning to higher education after a long hiatus was no easy task. However, Cloud was driven by the aspiration of making a change and impacting the world for future American Indian generations.

"The Cherokee Cultural Studies program is the only reason I came to NSU," Cloud said. "When I told folks I worked with in places like New York, Miami, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., that I was pursuing a degree in Cherokee Cultural Studies at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the capital of the Cherokee Nation, which is the only place in the world you can get this degree in community with Cherokee people and culture, folks took notice."

Cloud said his proudest moment at NSU was being inducted into the NSU Hall of Fame.

"Representing Native students, non-traditional students and queer students at a ceremony with all the dignitaries, faculty and staff present was definitely a highlight," Cloud said. "I hope that other Indigi-Queer nerds were celebrating in that moment, too. We all deserve to be in these spaces and to feel like we belong."

Cloud is the Cultural Programs and Events Project Manager with Cherokee Nation Cultural and Economic Development. Here, his work is centered around celebrating Cherokee culture and people at cultural sites that are open to the public across the Cherokee Nation.

Cloud's advice for American Indian students looking to receive a higher education is to make the plunge, noting that there is a need for Native scholars and Native thinking on issues that impact the world.

"There is no right or wrong path to achieving your degree," Cloud said. "When you decide to embark on the journey, do it with integrity."



Joseph Cloud

Citizen of Cherokee Nation | Chelsea, Oklahoma

Northeastern State University

Bachelor's in Cherokee Cultural Studies, Minor in Drama, Spring 2023



Rozlyn Locust

Member of United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians | Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Northeastern State University

Master of Business Administration, Spring 2023

American Indian Scholar Profile

Rozlyn Locust is a member of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians from Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Locust received her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Oklahoma in the fall of 2020 and her Master of Business Administration with a certificate in healthcare administration from Northeastern State University in the spring of 2023.

"I always knew that I wanted to go as far as my education could take me," Locust said. "I was never hesitant to take on that challenge."

Locust began a master's degree while she was eight months pregnant with her second son. She entered the program first to obtain a certificate in healthcare administration then later completed her MBA.

"I knew I had the motivation and I knew I had the drive," Locust said. "I just had to decide how to structure the next two years with work, school and being a mother."

Locust said she is driven by the opportunity to grow and learn and said if the opportunity arises, she would not hesitate to work towards a doctorate degree. She said her children are who keep her motivated.

"The ability to never stop growing, that's a really great driving factor," Locust said. "Whether it's for my 2-year-old or 10-year-old. I wouldn't say my plans changed. I just found new terrain on how to navigate my new dreams for the better."

Being a mother while juggling school and work is no easy feat but she credits her mentors and advisors at NSU for encouraging her and helping her along every step of the way even through her all online degree plan.

"Dr. Sandra Edwards was my advisor through the MBA program," Locust said. "She made me feel seen and heard even though I was online. I think that's what I appreciated the most about NSU, the advisors and anyone I talked to here spoke as if they could already see you making the achievement. Having that everyday language engrained in you through this process is very important."

As the daughter of two college graduates, she felt a strong desire to uphold the tradition of higher education and simultaneously set an example for her sons, demonstrating that they could also accomplish significant goals.

"My proudest moment has to be having both of my sons attend graduation with me," Locust said. "My oldest got to be there for me at OU [University of Oklahoma] and my youngest was the same age as my oldest when I graduated from NSU. Getting to see the full effect and showing them that they can easily do this if mom did was special."

Locust also credits her mentor and boss, Pamela Iron, executive director for the Cherokee County Health Services Council, noting her strength and leadership has been inspiring and allowed Locust to grow as a person and in her career.

"She worked through the Wilma Mankiller administration and has been a powerhouse for the community and the greatest mentor," Locust said. "I'm surrounded by all these intelligent women daily and it is very inspiring to me."

Today, Locust serves as deputy administrator for the Cherokee County Health Services Council, where she started as office services specialist. She said the organization has grown substantially since its inception and throughout the three years she has been involved. She is a first-time homeowner and enjoys spending time with her children and doing home projects.

About

THE UNIVERSITY

Northeastern State University is a comprehensive regional university that prepares students to succeed as global citizens by providing exceptional undergraduate and graduate programs, along with the only Doctorate of Optometry offered in Oklahoma (one of only 23 nationwide) and the only Bachelor of Arts degree in Cherokee Education in the nation.

HISTORY

Northeastern was founded in 1846 as the Cherokee National Female Seminary, which opened in 1851. On March 6, 1909, the Oklahoma Legislature purchased the Seminary from the Cherokee Nation, and the following September classes began at the newly formed Northeastern State Normal School. In 2009, the NSU Centennial Celebration highlighted the university's 100 years as a state institution and dedicated a monument to the preeminent Cherokee scholar, Sequoyah.

CENTER FOR TRIBAL STUDIES

The Center for Tribal Studies, founded in 1990, is a resource for bridging communication and interaction between Tribal Nations and the university. Within the context of American Indian higher education, the Center collaborates with other campus entities in program development, strategic planning, research guidance, student engagement and scholarly activities. Northeastern State University is a destination of choice for American Indian education, and the diverse campus culture nurtures a strong sense of community for Native students. Through educational leadership, cultural knowledge and professional development among students, scholars emerge - many of whom will serve in professions benefiting Tribal governments and Indigenous communities.

CHEROKEE LANGUAGE DEGREE PROGRAMS

Unique to Northeastern State University, the Bachelor of Arts in Cherokee Language Education is the only American Indian language education degree available in the United States with a curriculum leading to state certification for teachers. Since 2005, the program has brought together university, global and local interests as part of a plan to strengthen the Cherokee language for future generations. In 2009, a bachelor's degree in Cherokee Cultural Studies was added as an option to study language along with other aspects of cultural studies for non-teachers. A Cherokee Studies minor is also available. With alumni now employed at universities and at the Cherokee Language Immersion School, NSU graduates play a vital role in language revitalization.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE AMERICAN INDIAN

The 51st Annual Symposium on the American Indian is scheduled to take place April 15-20, 2024. This year's theme, "Indigenous Scholars Speak on Sovereignty: 100 Years after the Indian Citizenship Act," seeks to provide a platform for today's Indigenous Scholars to share their perspectives on sovereignty, Indigenizing education and scholarship, as well as highlighting the Indian Citizenship Act which was passed in 1924.

Tribal sovereignty has been at the forefront of discussions in higher education and in the media since the Supreme Court McGirt ruling. Similarly, we have seen an increase in the number of institutions adopting land acknowledgments, revising curriculum and practices to include more Indigenous knowledge, and those who have forged/are forging more genuine and reciprocal partnerships with Tribes. The primary goal of the Symposium is to broaden the audience perspectives on these topics which are especially relevant to our Tribal communities. Topics specifically addressed by the keynote scholars include history, law, and literature. Keynotes include Dr. Kasey Keeler (Tuolumne Band Me-Wuk Tribal citizen) and Robert Miller, J.D. (Eastern Shawnee).

nsuok.edu/symposium

American Indian Undergraduate Enrollment

BY DEGREE AND ACADEMIC MAJOR » FALL 2023

BACHELOR OF ARTS	301	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE	415
American Indian Studies	5	Advocacy and Justice Studies	1
Cherokee Cultural Studies	8	Applied Physics	2
Communication Studies	16	Cellular and Molecular Biology	37
Creative Writing	8	Chemistry	15
Drama	8	Computer Science	40
English	15	Criminal Justice	47
Geography & Sustainability Studies	3	Cyber Security	19
History	15	Environmental, Health & Safety Management	25
Media Studies	15	Freshwater Sciences	3
Music	4	Health & Human Performance	79
Political Science	7	Health Organizations Admin	12
Psychology	186	Homeland Security	1
Sociology	9	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	5
Spanish	2	Integrative Biology	24
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN EDUCATION	40	Legal Studies	13
Art Education	2	Mathematics	11
Cherokee Education	8	Mechanical Engineering	3
English Education	10	Medical Laboratory Science	11
Social Studies Education	19	Nutritional Sciences	22
Spanish Education	1	Organizational Leadership	19
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	209	Physics	2
Accounting	41	Speech Language Pathology	24
Business Administration	77	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION	136
Entrepreneurship	6	Early Childhood Education	45
Finance	12	Elementary Education	54
Hospitality & Tourism Management	4	Health & Physical Education	24
Information Systems	14	Mathematics Education	1
International Business Management	1	Special Education - Mild/Moderate Disorder	7
Management	21	Special Education	5
Marketing	27	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION	1
Supply Chain Management	6	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING	30
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK	31	BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY	2
BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS	13	CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS	1
BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES	63	Business Basics	1
BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION	5		

TOTAL DECLARED MAJORS	1,246
TOTAL UNDECLARED MAJORS	579
NON-DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS	23
TOTAL UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT	1,849

American Indian Graduate Enrollment

BY DEGREE AND ACADEMIC MAJOR >> FALL 2023

MASTER OF EDUCATION	67
Early Childhood Education	5
Instructional Leadership	15
Mathematics Education	2
Reading	9
School Administration	22
Science Education	4
Special Education - Autism Spectrum Disorders	10
MASTER OF ARTS	14
American Studies	8
Communication	1
English	2
Public Relations	3
MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	48
Business Administration	48
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH	7
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	20
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING	22

MASTER OF SCIENCE	154
Accounting & Financial Analysis	11
Applied Geographic Information Systems	1
Counseling	49
Criminal Justice	13
Health & Sport Science	7
Leadership	17
Library Media and Information Technology	13
Natural Sciences	2
Occupational Therapy	13
Physician Assistant Studies	15
Speech Language Pathology	13
CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS	17
Applied Geographic Information Systems	1
Classroom Teaching	1
Healthcare Administration Leadership	1
Operations Leadership	1
Public Health Leadership	1
Reading Specialist Certificate	1
School Administrator Certificate	11
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY	18

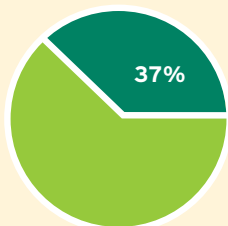
TOTAL DECLARED MAJORS	367
TOTAL UNDECLARED MAJORS	14
TOTAL GRADUATE ENROLLMENT	381

American Indian Enrollment

ENROLLMENT TOTAL >> FALL 2023

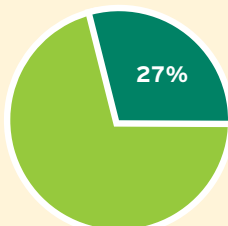
DATA SOURCE: NSU Office of Institutional Effectiveness

TOTAL UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT
1,849 of 4,996



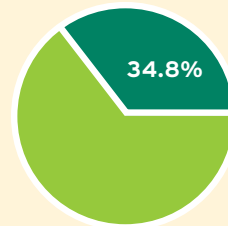
% OF ALL UNDERGRADUATE

TOTAL GRADUATE ENROLLMENT
381 of 1,413



% OF ALL GRADUATE

TOTAL ENROLLMENT FALL 2023
2,230 of 6,409



% OF TOTAL STUDENTS

■ American Indian
■ Other

AMERICAN INDIAN ENROLLMENT BY MAIN CAMPUS



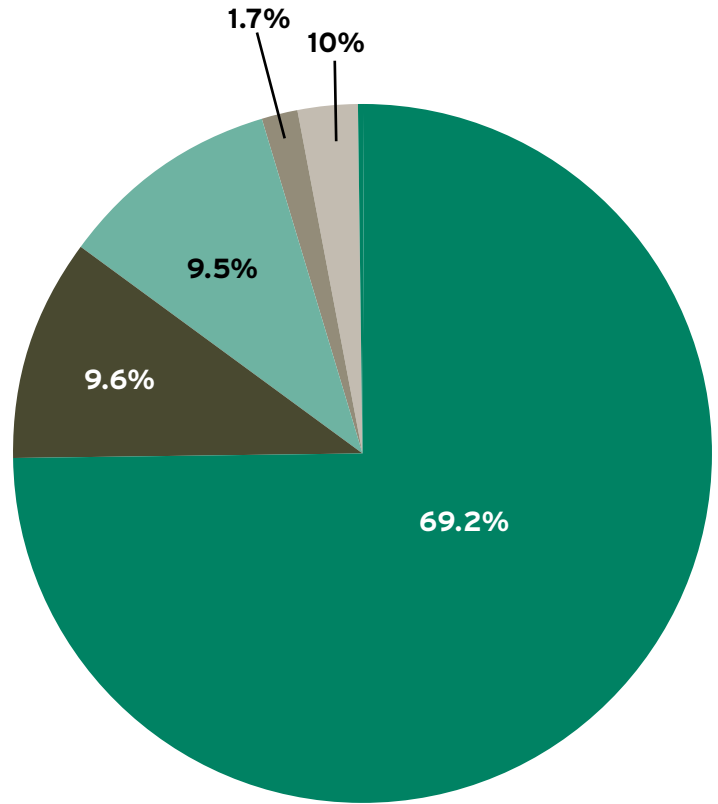
■ Tahlequah
■ Broken Arrow
■ Online*
■ Muskogee

*Includes student enrollment in 100% online degree programs

American Indian Enrollment

BY TRIBE >> FALL 2023

TRIBE	STUDENTS	% TOTAL
Absentee Shawnee	5	0.2
Apache	6	0.3
Caddo	3	0.1
Cherokee Nation	1,594	69.2
Cheyenne-Arapaho	5	0.2
Chickasaw Nation	39	1.7
Choctaw Nation	218	9.5
Citizen Band of Potawatomie	16	0.7
Comanche	5	0.2
Muscogee Creek Nation	222	9.6
Delaware	8	0.3
Eastern Shawnee	2	0.1
Euchee	1	0.04
Iowa	1	0.04
Kaw	2	0.1
Kickapoo	5	0.2
Kiowa	2	0.1
Modoc	2	0.1
Osage	20	0.9
Ottawa	1	0.04
Otoe-Missouria	2	0.1
Pawnee	3	0.1
Peoria	2	0.1
Ponca	4	0.2
Quapaw	5	0.2
Sac & Fox	4	0.2
Seminole Nation	20	0.9
Seneca-Cayuga	7	0.3
Shawnee	7	0.3
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town (of the Muscogee Creek Nation)	1	0.04
Tonkawa	1	0.04
United Keetoowah Band	13	0.6
Wichita	1	0.04
Wyandotte	5	0.2
Other U.S. Tribes & Indigenous Populations	33	1.4
Other North American Tribes	10	0.4
Other Central or South American Tribes	2	0.1
Unknown	28	1.2



Enrollment by Tribe >> Fall 2023

■ Cherokee Nation	69.2%
■ Muscogee Creek Nation	9.6%
■ Choctaw Nation	9.5%
■ Chickasaw Nation	1.7%
■ Other US Tribes and Indigenous Populations	10%

Degrees Conferred

BY DEGREE AND ACADEMIC MAJOR » SUMMER 2022, FALL 2022, SPRING 2023

BACHELOR OF ARTS	27
American Indian Studies	1
Cherokee Cultural Studies	2
Communication Studies	1
Creative Writing	1
Drama	1
English	2
History	4
Media Studies	6
Political Science	2
Sociology	7
Spanish	

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN EDUCATION	10
Art	2
English Education	5
Social Studies Education	3

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK	8
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BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES	30
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BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS	6
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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION	39
Early Childhood Education	15
Elementary Education	14
Health & Physical Education	7
Mathematics Education	1
Special Education - Mild/Moderate	2

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE	188
Applied Physics	4
Cell and Molecular Biology	13
Chemistry	5
Computer Science	14
Criminal Justice	19
Cyber Security	4
Environmental, Health & Safety Management	13
Health & Human Performance	24
Homeland Security	2
Integrative Biology	4
Legal Studies	2
Mathematics	4
Medical Lab Science	4
Nutritional Sciences	10
Organizational Leadership	13
Psychology	46
Speech Language Pathology	7

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	86
Accounting	18
Business Administration	19
Entrepreneurship	1
Finance	4
Health Organizations Administration	7
Hospitality & Tourism Management	3
Information Systems	1
Management	19
Marketing	13
Supply Chain Management	1

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING	11
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TOTAL BACHELOR'S DEGREES 405

MASTER OF EDUCATION	27
Early Childhood Education	3
Instructional Leadership	6
Reading	4
School Administration	7
Special Education - Autism Spectrum Disorder	7

MASTER OF ARTS	9
American Studies	4
English	5

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	23
Masters of Business Administration	20
Professional Masters of Business Administration	3

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH	1
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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING	1
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MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	7
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DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY	5
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MASTER OF SCIENCE	57
Accounting and Financial Analysis	3
Counseling	7
Criminal Justice	10
Health & Sport Science	1
Leadership	9
Natural Sciences	3
Occupational Therapy	5
Physician Assistant Studies	4
Speech Language Pathology	15

TOTAL MASTER'S DEGREES AND DOCTORATES 130

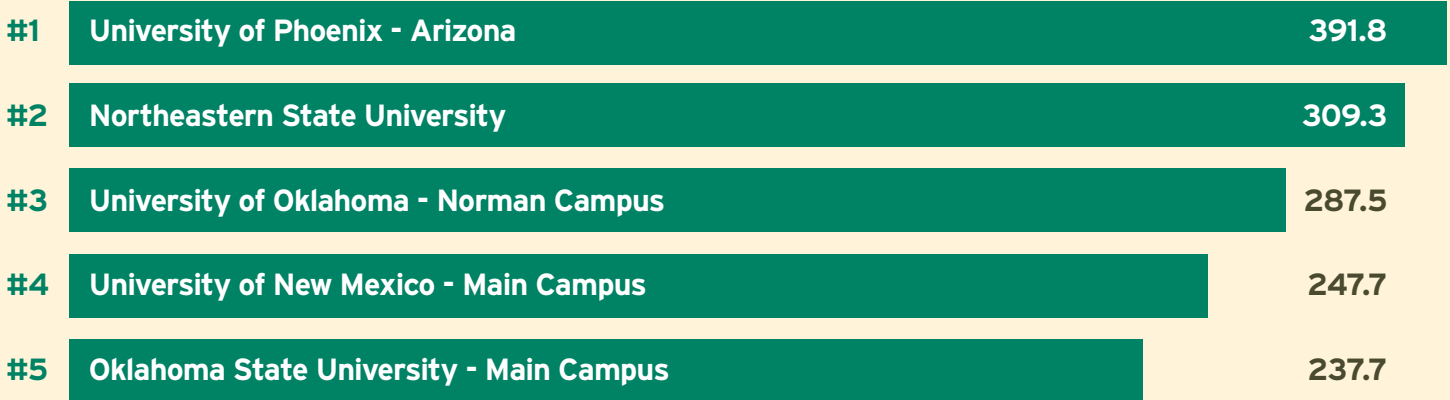
TOTAL DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES CONFERRED 560

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS	25
CERT-American Chemical Society (UG)	1
CERT-Classroom Teaching (GR)	2
CERT-Data Analytics (GR)	3
CERT-Emergency Mgmt & Planning (UG)	3
CERT-Geographic Information Systems (UG)	1
CERT-Healthcare Administration Leadership (GR)	1
CERT-Human Resource Management (UG)	3
CERT-International Business (UG)	1
CERT-Library Media Specialist (GR)	1
CERT-Nursing Informatics (GR)	1
CERT-Operations Leadership (GR)	2
CERT-School Administration (GR)	5
CERT-STEM Education (GR)	1

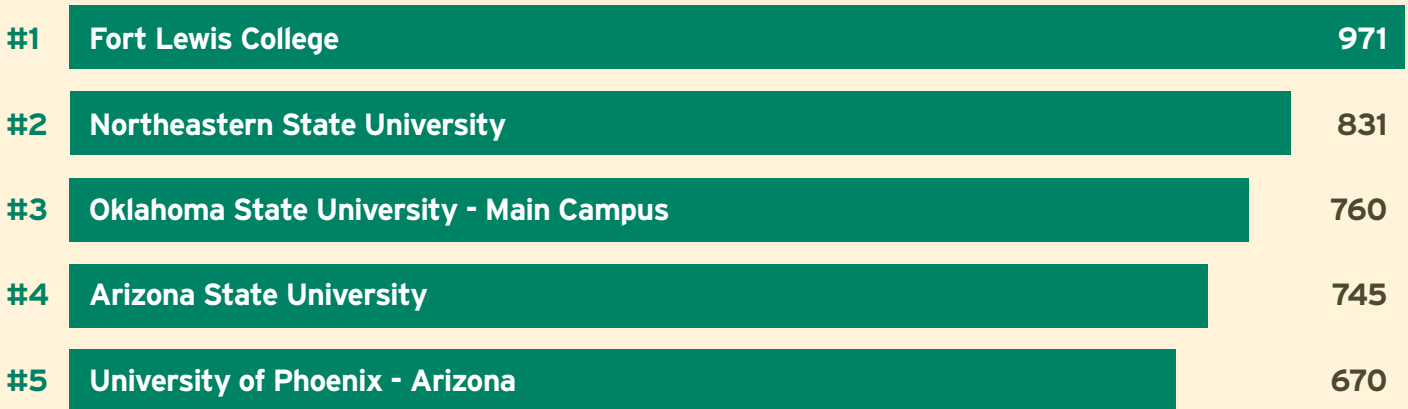
Top Five Ranking Among Four-Year Colleges Serving American Indians

WINDS OF CHANGE 30TH ANNUAL SPECIAL COLLEGE ISSUE • 2023-2024

RANKED BY NUMBER OF DEGREES AWARDED TO INDIGENOUS STUDENTS



RANKED BY NUMBER OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE INDIGENOUS STUDENTS



Winds of Change report is based on data from the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). "Indigenous" above includes American Indian, Alaska Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, First Nations, and other Indigenous peoples of North America.



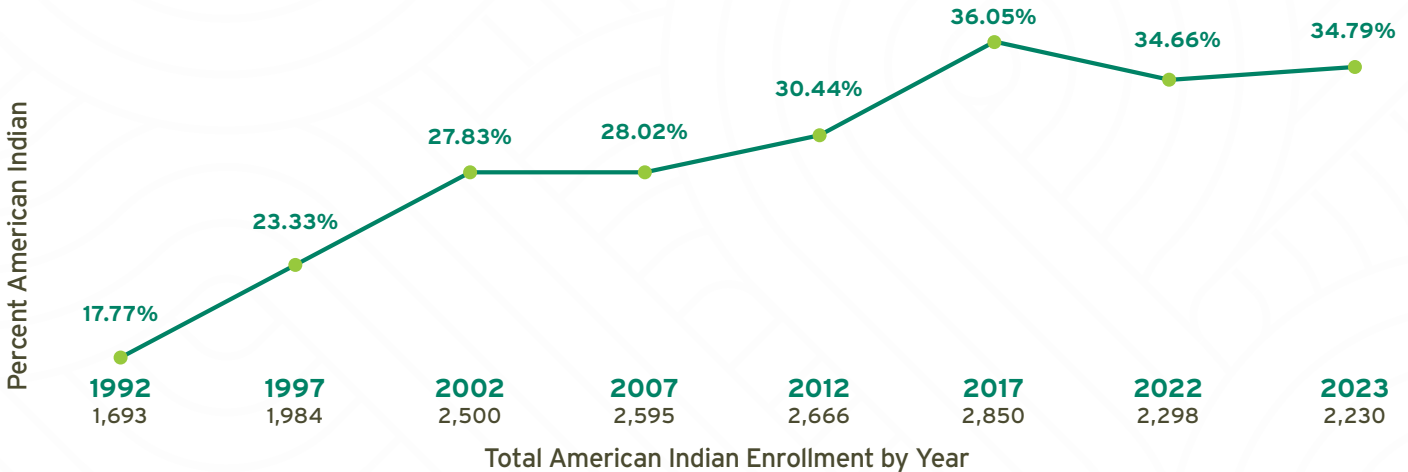
Fall to fall first-time & full-time UG retention rate

6 Year graduation 2017 Cohort

American Indian Undergraduate and Graduate Enrollment

BY YEAR » FALL SEMESTERS 1992 to 2023

YEAR	UNDER-GRADUATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL AMERICAN INDIAN	NSU TOTAL	PERCENT AMERICAN INDIAN	YEAR	UNDER-GRADUATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL AMERICAN INDIAN	NSU TOTAL	PERCENT AMERICAN INDIAN
2023	1,849	381	2,230	6,409	34.79	2007	2,343	252	2,595	9,261	28.02
2022	1,892	406	2,298	6,631	34.66	2006	2,411	245	2,656	9,540	27.84
2021	1,926	411	2,337	7,006	33.36	2005	2,396	240	2,636	9,702	27.17
2020	2,096	358	2,454	7,291	33.66	2004	2,435	281	2,716	9,562	28.40
2019	2,284	350	2,634	7,496	35.14	2003	2,422	223	2,645	9,297	28.45
2018	2,631	310	2,941	7,899	37.23	2002	2,257	243	2,500	8,984	27.83
2017	2,573	277	2,850	7,906	36.05	2001	2,187	183	2,370	8,603	27.55
2016	2,502	317	2,819	8,100	34.80	2000	1,962	139	2,101	8,378	25.08
2015	2,510	326	2,836	8,276	34.27	1999	1,769	91	1,860	8,121	22.90
2014	2,525	313	2,838	8,332	34.06	1998	1,920	120	2,040	8,462	24.11
2013	2,513	255	2,768	8,559	32.34	1997	1,875	109	1,984	8,503	23.33
2012	2,417	249	2,666	8,758	30.44	1996	1,760	99	1,859	8,710	21.34
2011	2,290	236	2,526	9,361	26.98	1995	1,786	130	1,916	8,273	23.16
2010	2,511	240	2,751	9,588	28.69	1994	1,766	135	1,901	9,374	20.28
2009	2,309	257	2,566	9,318	27.54	1993	1,582	138	1,720	9,299	18.50
2008	2,203	193	2,396	8,833	27.13	1992	1,521	172	1,693	9,527	17.77



STAFF

Melody Proctor, M.A.
United Keetoowah Band/Muscogee |
 Interim Director

Jerret Carpenter, B.S.A.G.
Choctaw | Student Programs Coordinator

Gaelen Rose, M.S.
Cherokee | Student Engagement Coordinator

Randilyn Rose, M.S.
Cherokee | Retention Specialist

Rachel Buckner, B.A.
Cherokee/Muscogee (Creek) |
 Faculty/Staff Engagement
 & Professional Development Coordinator

**51ST ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON
 THE AMERICAN INDIAN -
 Indigenous Scholars Speak on
 Sovereignty: 100 Years after the
 Indian Citizenship Act**
 April 15-20, 2024

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Alpha Pi Omega Sorority
 American Indigenous Business Leaders
 American Indian Science
 & Engineering Society
 Native American Student Association

CENTER FOR TRIBAL STUDIES

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