AGENDA ITEM NO: 5.1

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Carolyn Augusta, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: May 15, 2025

SUBJECT: **Master of Physician Assistant Admission Qualifications**

MOTION: *It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the Master of Physician Assistant admission requirements effective for the 2026-2027 intake.*

PURPOSE:

University Council has the authority to approve changes to admissions qualifications. Senate confirmation of the decision is required before the changes can take effect.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is proposing admission requirement changes to the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program. The MPAS program was initially approved in April 2024 with the program's first admission cycle opening in September 2024. Program curriculum was being developed concurrent to these admission processes and as a result, a comprehensive review of the admissions process was undertaken by MPAS. The proposed changes will enhance and clarify prerequisite course requirements, add the requirement of a CV, and move the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index from selection criteria to the admission requirements. These changes will be effective for students applying to the MPAS program in Fall 2025/Winter 2026 and starting the program in September 2026.

CONSULTATION:

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies along with proponents from the MPAS program brought forward a proposal to the Academic Programs Committee of Council (APC) on March 26, 2025. Members reviewed the requested changes and had a few outstanding questions and recommendations for the proponents. At the April 16th, 2025, meeting, members advised proponents to ensure there is clear information for applicants on how the CV and *Saskatchewan Connectedness Index* will be used in the selection process. After a robust discussion, APC voted in favour of the proposed changes.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Master of Physician Assistant Admission Qualifications

Master of Physician Assistant Studies Admission Requirement Changes

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UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
GRAD.USASK.CA

116, 110 Science Place
Saskatoon SK S7N 5C9 Canada
Telephone: **306-966-5751**
Email: **grad.studies@usask.ca**

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Academic Programs Committee of Council

From: **College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies**

Date: April 10, 2025

Re: Clarification of MPAS Admission Requirement changes

The perspective of the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) is that any document required from all applicants and used to assess admissibility must be listed as an admission requirement. The intent of the proposed Master of Physician Assistants Studies (MPAS) admission requirements changes is to ensure the admission requirements correctly reflect the documents that all applicants are required to submit. These changes are not being proposed for the purpose of information being tracked in Student Information Systems (i.e., RMS Recruit)

CGPS has been working closely with the RMS team and reconnected with Ken Glover on March 28, 2025 to discuss the MPAS application. The application for graduate programs is unique in that there is only one application to serve all graduate programs. To meet the admissions needs of specific programs, supplemental items can be built into RMS that can be exported for analysis:

1. **Saskatchewan Connectedness Index**: CGPS' impetus for listing this as an admission requirement is because all applicants to the MPAS program will be required to complete the SK index, the results of which will be used to determine admissibility to the program. Adding the requirement will clarify to applicants that submission of the index is required for an application to be considered complete. The index is currently a supplemental item in RMS and will be required to remain as such. Within this supplemental item, applicants will answer the 10-question survey, and the results can be exported to Excel for analysis, like the MD program.

2. **Up-to-date CV:** The CV is being added as a brand-new admission requirement to ensure that this document is collected for all applicants to the MPAS program. Many grad programs collect a CV (and/or program specific documents) and the program page on https://grad.usask.ca/ can be amended to instruct applicants on the information needed in the document. The CV is an important item to collect to assess an applicant's professional experience and was not part of the initial admission or selection criteria for the MPAS program.

If you have any questions, please contact the Academic Affairs Specialist at gradprograms.academicaffairs@usask.ca.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Medicine
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
MEDICINE.USASK.CA/MPAS

Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program

Revised Admissions and Selection Criteria: Update for Academic Approval

Executive Summary

This document outlines updates to the admissions and selection criteria for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program. These revisions are submitted for review by the Graduate Programs Committee following the program's full academic approval by University Council on April 18, 2024. These updates are designed to enhance the selection process in preparation for the program's Fall 2026 intake. A letter of support from the Dean of the College of Medicine is included with this submission.

As the program transitions from development to implementation, a comprehensive review of the admissions process has been undertaken to ensure alignment with curriculum goals, optimize applicant evaluation, and enhance data security. This review, informed by best practices in Physician Assistant education, has led to three key modifications:

1. **Strengthening the Human Physiology prerequisite** by increasing the required credit units (cu) from 3 to 6.
2. **Introducing a Curriculum Vitae (CV) requirement** as part of the admissions process.
3. **Reclassifying the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index from Selection Criteria to an Admission Requirement**, facilitating secure data collection via the University's Recruitment and Admissions Management System (RMS).

*For further details on the program structure, curriculum, and overall admissions framework, please refer to our original **Academic Proposal Document** (page 38-190).*

Key Revisions and Rationale

1. Enhancement of the Human Physiology Prerequisite

Updated Requirement: Increase from 3 credit units to 6 credit units. The Human Anatomy prerequisite remains at 3 credit units.

Justification:

- **Enhanced Foundational Knowledge** – A single 3 cu physiology course often provides only a broad overview of key physiological systems in a few or select body systems, whereas a more comprehensive 6 cu requirement would ensure students have a stronger foundational understanding of key physiological systems in all of the body systems necessary for success in graduate-level PA program.

- **Alignment with Curriculum Expectations** – Given the compressed (2 year) length of our PA program it is imperative that students enter with a strong focus on human physiology. By increasing the prerequisite to 6 cu, we can ensure that students are better prepared to engage with advanced topics without requiring extensive remedial instruction.

- **Comparability with Other Institutions** – A review of similar undergraduate and graduate programs at peer institutions suggests that a 6 cu requirement is more aligned with national and international standards, helping to maintain the competitiveness of our program.

- **Applicant Considerations**: The program will provide guidance on suitable course options and acceptable course substitutions to minimize barriers for applicants needing to fulfill this requirement. Applicants will have until April 2026 to complete all prerequisite and academic requirements for the Fall 2026 admissions intake. This ensures that incoming students meet necessary academic standards while providing flexibility and support to help them fulfill requirements without unnecessary barriers.

2. Addition of Curriculum Vitae (CV) as an Admission Requirement

New Requirement: Applicants must submit an up-to-date CV outlining their educational background, work experience, volunteer activities, research involvement, and other relevant accomplishments.

Justification:

- **Comprehensive Applicant Profile:** A CV provides a valuable and concise summary of an applicant's educational history, work experience, volunteer activities, research involvement, and other relevant accomplishments. This holistic overview complements academic transcripts and provides the admissions committee with a broader understanding of each applicant's background, skills, and experiences beyond academic performance.

- **Demonstration of Relevant Experience:** For a professional program like Physician Assistant Studies, practical experience, healthcare exposure, and professional development are highly relevant. The CV allows applicants to showcase these experiences, highlighting skills and attributes that are essential for success in the program and future practice as a Physician Assistant. However, prior healthcare experience is not a requirement for admission. The admissions committee will use structured guidelines to assess CVs, ensuring consistency in evaluating applicants' relevant experiences.

3. Reclassification of the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index as an Admission Requirement

Updated Classification: The Saskatchewan Connectedness Index will be collected as an admission requirement rather than a selection criterion, allowing applicants to provide this information securely within the RMS system.

Justification:

- **Addressing Healthcare Workforce Needs:** The Saskatchewan Connectedness Index is a critical tool designed to identify applicants with a demonstrated connection to Saskatchewan and/or rural communities, including Yukon, Nunavut, and Northwest Territories. This index utilizes demographic factors, derived by their personal and historical connections to the province, that are predictive of an applicant's likelihood to practice in Saskatchewan after graduation. As Saskatchewan's only medical school, we have a strong social mandate to address the healthcare workforce challenges facing our province and its rural communities. This aligns with the Saskatchewan government's four-point

Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan focused on recruiting, training, incentivizing, and retaining healthcare providers within the province.

- **Ensuring Program Mission Alignment:** By incorporating the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index as an admission requirement, we ensure that our selection process prioritizes applicants who are more likely to contribute to the healthcare needs of Saskatchewan communities, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Collecting this information directly within the RMS application ensures secure and efficient management of this important data. All applicants are asked to complete the questionnaire for the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index; however, they have the option to select "prefer not to disclose" for all questions if they choose not to share this information. While applicants can opt not to disclose specific information, those who do provide responses will help inform program efforts to meet provincial healthcare needs.

Conclusion

These updates reinforce the MPAS program's commitment to selecting highly qualified, well-prepared candidates who will contribute meaningfully to healthcare in Saskatchewan and beyond. In order to have these admission requirements reflected in the Fall 2026 admission cycle, we are aiming for approval of these proposed changes (through University Council) before May 2025. This timeline will ensure that the updates are included in the USask Program Catalogue, which is released in September 2025.

We respectfully submit this revised admissions and selection criteria document for review and approval by the Academic Approval Committee and welcome any feedback or questions.

Physician Assistant Studies

Master of Physician Assistant Studies (M.P.A.S.)

This program will begin in the Fall of 2025.

Admission Requirements

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- A four year undergraduate degree, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university awarded prior to entry into the program
- A cumulative weighted entrance average of at least 75%. The cumulative weighted average will be calculated based on the most recent 60 graded credit units (i.e. the last two years of full-time graded course work) at the time of application.
- Language Proficiency Requirement: Proof of English proficiency may be required for applicants to graduate programs. Proof of English proficiency may be demonstrated through:
    - A minimum of three consecutive years of full-time study or completion of a graduate degree at a recognized post-secondary institution, where the exclusive language of instruction and examination of the program and/or institution is English; or,
    - Provision of evidence of English language proficiency, using one of the approved tests listed in the **English Language Proficiency Policy**
- Demonstration of full course load (30 credit units in a year) in at least two years of undergraduate degree, one of these two years needs to be included in the last sixty credit units. Exceptions may be considered.
- Successful completion of the required pre-requisite courses with a minimum grade of 75% or higher in each prerequisite course:
    - ~~o~~ Indigenous Studies – 3 credit units (~~**list of approved courses** or Indigenous Canada MOOC)~~

      ANTH 202.3 Anthropological Approaches to Aboriginal Research in Canada, ANTH 480.3 Indigenous Peoples and Mental Health Anthropological and Related Perspectives, CHEP 819 Colonization and its Impact on Indigenous Peoples' Health and Healing, HIST 195.3 History Matters Indigenous Perspectives on Canadian History, HIST 266.3 History Wars Issues in Native Newcomer Relations, INDG 107.3 Introduction to Canadian Indigenous Studies, LING 253.3 Indigenous Languages of Canada, PLAN 445.3 Planning with Indigenous Communities, POLS 222.3 Indigenous Governance and Politics, KIN 306.3 Introduction to Indigenous Wellness, INDG — 200-Level, 300-Level, 400-Level, SOC 341 Institutional Racism and Indigenous People, *or* ***equivalent****

- Human Anatomy – 3 credit units

  CPPS (ACB) 310.3 Basic Human Anatomy or CPPS (ACB) 221.3 Gross Anatomy, or ***equivalent****

- Human Physiology – 6 credit units

  BMSC 207.3 Human Body Systems I **and** BMSC 208.3 Human Body Systems II or CPPS (PHPY) 302.3 Human Physiology Transport Systems **and** CPPS (PHPY) 303.3 Human Physiology Reproduction Growth and Energy Homeostasis, or ***equivalent****

- Additional coursework in the following areas is highly recommended, but not required: biochemistry, microbiology, genetics, psychology, statistics

- An up-to-date CV
- Completion of the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index. Applicants must be prepared to provide verification for claims made in regard to their Saskatchewan connectedness.

*Prerequisite equivalencies are approved by the MPAS admissions committee. The list of approved equivalencies is available on the MPAS website and will be managed by the MPAS program and updated as needed. If specific course equivalencies are not listed, applicants must seek and receive approval for equivalent prerequisite courses in advance of application. Applicants must contact the MPAS program to enquire about equivalency approval by email.

For more information on language proficiency requirements, see the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies **Academic Policies**.

Selection Criteria

- Written personal statement (based on question prompt)
- Supplemental asynchronous assessment (video/written)
- Interview
- ~~Saskatchewan and Rural Connectedness index~~
- Diversity and Social Accountability index
- Provide three references (ideally in a supervisory or employer role) who can speak to applicant's personal qualities in an academic, volunteer, employment or research environment

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Medicine
MEDICINE.USASK.CA

Sarah Forgie, MD, M.Ed., FAMMI, FRCPC
Professor and Dean
Box 19, 107 Wiggins Road
4A20, Health Sciences Building
Saskatoon SK S7N 5E5 Canada
306-966-6149

March 3, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for Revisions to MPAS Admissions and Selection Criteria

Dear Graduate Programs Committee,

I am writing in support of the proposed revisions to the admissions and selection criteria for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program. With our inaugural cohort beginning in Fall 2025, we are in the process of completing our first round of admissions and we are continually refining the process to ensure it reflects our program's vision for academic excellence, workforce readiness, and a transformative learning experience. The proposed updates are intended for implementation in the Fall 2026 admission cycle.

At the College of Medicine, we believe in fostering an environment where students can thrive—not just academically but as compassionate, skilled, and community-oriented healthcare providers. The proposed updates include the strengthening of prerequisite coursework in human physiology, the introduction of a curriculum vitae requirement, and the reclassification of the Saskatchewan Connectedness Index as an admission requirement. These enhancements will further support the selection of outstanding candidates.

These changes reflect our commitment to rigor while addressing the pressing healthcare needs of Saskatchewan, particularly in rural and underserved areas. The alignment with the Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan ensures that we are actively contributing to provincial efforts to recruit, train, and retain healthcare professionals in the communities that need them most.

Our vision is to build a program that inspires and equips future physician assistants to make a meaningful impact in our province and beyond, and these admissions updates help us to move closer to that goal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Forgie

Domes, Trustin

From: Milne, Brooke
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin; A&S Vice Dean Academic
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin:

Thank you for your message and bringing this to our attention. I have copied on my reply Vice Dean, Academic, Dr. Jennifer Lang, who can provide some guidance on how Arts and Science courses can be considered for meeting prerequisites in the MPAS program.

Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science
Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

I acknowledge that I live and work on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Dr. Milne,

Hope you are doing well. As part of our Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program admissions requirements, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite. This aligns with the College of Medicine's commitment

to social accountability, reconciliation, and ensuring our learners develop the foundational knowledge necessary to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

We are basing this approach on what the UGME MD program has done for their Indigenous Studies prerequisites. Additionally, this aligns with the TRC Health Calls to Action, which emphasize the need for health professionals to have stronger foundation in Indigenous health, history, and governance.

In our program materials, we have referenced the following courses currently offered through the College of Arts and Science as meeting this requirement:

> ANTH 202.3 Anthropological Approaches to Aboriginal Research in Canada, ANTH 480.3 Indigenous Peoples and Mental Health Anthropological and Related Perspectives, CHEP 819 Colonization and its Impact on Indigenous Peoples' Health and Healing, HIST 195.3 History Matters Indigenous Perspectives on Canadian History, HIST 266.3 History Wars Issues in Native Newcomer Relations, INDG 107.3 Introduction to Canadian Indigenous Studies, LING 253.3 Indigenous Languages of Canada, PLAN 445.3 Planning with Indigenous Communities, POLS 222.3 Indigenous Governance and Politics, KIN 306.3 Introduction to Indigenous Wellness, INDG — 200-Level, 300-Level, 400-Level, SOC 341 Institutional Racism and Indigenous People

To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

"Education is not simply helping someone to know something, but it is also helping that person become someone." Gloria Dall'Alba
"Small wins fuel transformative changes by leveraging tiny advantages into patterns that convince people that bigger achievements are within reach." Charles Huhigg

Domes, Trustin

From: Walker, Ryan
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:54 AM
To: Guo, Xulin; Domes, Trustin
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: RE: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Categories: Yellow Category

Hello Trustin,
This is a good initiative you're taking. Yes, as the typical instructor for PLAN 445.3 I am supportive of this and can accommodate new enrolment demand.
Ryan

--
Ryan Walker, Ph.D. RPP MCIP
he/him
Professor, Geography & Planning
University of Saskatchewan
http://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/RWalker/

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give.usask.ca

From: Guo, Xulin <xulin.guo@usask.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 9:14 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Walker, Ryan <ryan.walker@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Good morning, Dustin,

It sounds good to me, but I copied the email with the instructor Dr. Ryan Walker to see what he thinks.

Xulin

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:45 PM
To: Guo, Xulin <xulin.guo@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Guo,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

In consultation with Dr. Brooke Milne, Dean, College of Arts and Science and following direction from Dr. Jennifer Lang, Interim, Vice-Dean Academic, we've identified several courses from the College of Arts and Science that may meet this requirement. We are reaching out to ask if you have any concerns about potential increased demand for these courses. If you foresee any issues or have recommendations regarding the courses listed, please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

The courses we have referenced are as follows:

- **ANTH 202.3** – Anthropological Approaches to Aboriginal Research in Canada
- **ANTH 480.3** – Indigenous Peoples and Mental Health: Anthropological and Related Perspectives
- **CHEP 819** – Colonization and its Impact on Indigenous Peoples' Health and Healing
- **HIST 195.3** – History Matters: Indigenous Perspectives on Canadian History
- **HIST 266.3** – History Wars: Issues in Native-Newcomer Relations
- **INDG 107.3** – Introduction to Canadian Indigenous Studies
- **LING 253.3** – Indigenous Languages of Canada
- **PLAN 445.3** – Planning with Indigenous Communities
- **POLS 222.3** – Indigenous Governance and Politics
- **KIN 306.3** – Introduction to Indigenous Wellness
- **SOC 341** – Institutional Racism and Indigenous Peoples

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thank you for this helpful list of contacts, we will reach out to them and ensure proper alignment and see if anyone has any concerns.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Trustin,
Thank you for reaching out as part of the consultation process. As you may anticipate, we have a lot of demand for courses within our College of Arts and Science students to fulfil the Indigenous Learning Requirement and the departments themselves can speak to any capacity issues that they might foresee with this proposal.
I invite you to reach out to the following Department Heads for the courses you've identified in their departments that might qualify:

Clinton Westman – Anthropology
Kathryn Labelle – History
Terry Wotherspoon – Indigenous Studies
Jesse Stewart – Linguistics
Neil Hibbert – Political Studies
Harley Dickinson – Sociology
Xulin Guo – Geography and Planning

From the College administration perspective, I am grateful that you are considering a large roster of courses that could fulfill this criteria rather than one sole course that could really feel a capacity impact.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
Ph: 306-966-6812

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Dr. Milne for getting back to us on this so quickly. We look forward to hearing from Dr. Lang.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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Sincerely,
Brooke

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Dean, College of Arts & Science

Professor, Department of Anthropology

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College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

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Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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We are basing this approach on what the UGME MD program has done for their Indigenous Studies prerequisites. Additionally, this aligns with the TRC Health Calls to Action, which emphasize the need for health professionals to have stronger foundation in Indigenous health, history, and governance.

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To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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Domes, Trustin

From: A&S Vice Dean Academic
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 11:57 AM
To: Domes, Trustin
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Trustin,
Thank you for reaching out as part of the consultation process. As you may anticipate, we have a lot of demand for courses within our College of Arts and Science students to fulfil the Indigenous Learning Requirement and the departments themselves can speak to any capacity issues that they might foresee with this proposal.
I invite you to reach out to the following Department Heads for the courses you've identified in their departments that might qualify:

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Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
Ph: 306-966-6812

I acknowledge that I live and work on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

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prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Dr. Milne for getting back to us on this so quickly. We look forward to hearing from Dr. Lang.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin:

Thank you for your message and bringing this to our attention. I have copied on my reply Vice Dean, Academic, Dr. Jennifer Lang, who can provide some guidance on how Arts and Science courses can be considered for meeting prerequisites in the MPAS program.

Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science

Professor, Department of Anthropology

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Dr. Milne,

Hope you are doing well. As part of our Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program admissions requirements, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite. This aligns with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and ensuring our learners develop the foundational knowledge necessary to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

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To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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Domes, Trustin

From: Domes, Trustin
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 8:36 PM
To: Hibbert, Neil
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Neil for letting us know and for those other suggestions as well. It is very much appreciated.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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From: Hibbert, Neil <nah190@mail.usask.ca>
Sent: March 13, 2025 2:03 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hi Trustin,

Doing well, thanks – hope the same for you.

I'm don't have any concerns in principle of adding POLS 222 to your list (it is an excellent introduction to indigenous politics and governance). I'm not sure what kind of student numbers you have needing these classes but I would note this class is our contribution to the College of Arts and Science's indigenous learning requirement and so fills up pretty much every time it is offered (we do offer an online version once or twice a year which creates more capacity).

We also offer POLS 324 (Metis otehpayimusuak and apihtawikosisanak Governance) and POLS 422 (Indigenous Governance and Self Determined Sustainable Development) from time to time. These would also be good fits though may require pre-req overrides as they're upper year classes.

All best,
Neil

--

Neil Hibbert
Head, Political Studies
University of Saskatchewan

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 at 4:44 PM
To: Hibbert, Neil <nah190@mail.usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Hibbert,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

In consultation with Dr. Brooke Milne, Dean, College of Arts and Science and following direction from Dr. Jennifer Lang, Interim, Vice-Dean Academic, we've identified several courses from the College of Arts and Science that may meet this requirement. We are reaching out to ask if you have any concerns about potential increased demand for these courses. If you foresee any issues or have recommendations regarding the courses listed, please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

The courses we have referenced are as follows:

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- **PLAN 445.3** – Planning with Indigenous Communities
- **POLS 222.3** – Indigenous Governance and Politics
- **KIN 306.3** – Introduction to Indigenous Wellness
- **SOC 341** – Institutional Racism and Indigenous Peoples

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thank you for this helpful list of contacts, we will reach out to them and ensure proper alignment and see if anyone has any concerns.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
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From: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Trustin,
Thank you for reaching out as part of the consultation process. As you may anticipate, we have a lot of demand for courses within our College of Arts and Science students to fulfil the Indigenous Learning Requirement and the departments themselves can speak to any capacity issues that they might foresee with this proposal.
I invite you to reach out to the following Department Heads for the courses you've identified in their departments that might qualify:

Clinton Westman – Anthropology
Kathryn Labelle – History
Terry Wotherspoon – Indigenous Studies
Jesse Stewart – Linguistics
Neil Hibbert – Political Studies
Harley Dickinson – Sociology
Xulin Guo – Geography and Planning

From the College administration perspective, I am grateful that you are considering a large roster of courses that could fulfill this criteria rather than one sole course that could really feel a capacity impact.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
Ph: 306-966-6812

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Dr. Milne for getting back to us on this so quickly. We look forward to hearing from Dr. Lang.
Trustin

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Associate Professor of Surgery
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From: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin:

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Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science
Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

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Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Dr. Milne,

Hope you are doing well. As part of our Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program admissions requirements, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite. This aligns with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and ensuring our learners develop the foundational knowledge necessary to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

We are basing this approach on what the UGME MD program has done for their Indigenous Studies prerequisites. Additionally, this aligns with the TRC Health Calls to Action, which emphasize the need for health professionals to have stronger foundation in Indigenous health, history, and governance.

In our program materials, we have referenced the following courses currently offered through the College of Arts and Science as meeting this requirement:

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To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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Domes, Trustin

From: Domes, Trustin
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 2:44 PM
To: Labelle, Katie
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri; A&S Vice Dean Academic; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Katie for letting us know and I'm sorry to hear about the challenges your Department is facing. Although we list these as possible courses, students certainly need to be aware that they may not be able to get into these courses and need to plan ahead. It makes total sense that history majors and others that need this course for degree requirements would take preference. We just want to offer a variety of options as we may attract some history majors to this profession as well!
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
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Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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---

From: Labelle, Katie <kathryn.labelle@usask.ca>
Sent: March 11, 2025 10:28 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin,
Thank you for reaching out.
I'm glad to hear that you think we can help support this important initiative.
That said, although the Department and faculty would love to say there are no concerns, the truth is that we do not have the faculty to run these courses at this time and a number of other courses that would qualify for the ILR are not approved due to administrative processes out of our control. Our current ILR courses are at maximum capacity at the moment and we are not able to offer these courses to meet the demand.

For instance, **we are only able to offer HIST 195 once next year** and the capacity is 126.
We are not able to offer HIST 266 for at least the next two years.

I wish I had better news. If circumstances change, I will certainly let you know.
Best, Katie
I acknowledge that I live and work on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Michif/Métis.*

Kathryn Magee Labelle

Department Head, History Department
Professor, University of Saskatchewan
Author: *Dispersed, But Not Destroyed* (UBC: 2013), *Le Pari de le dispersion* (PUL: 2014), *Daughters of Aataentsic* (MQUP: 2021)
Co-Editor: *From Huronia to Wendakes* (UOP 2016)

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:31 PM
To: Labelle, Katie <kathryn.labelle@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Labelle,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

In consultation with Dr. Brooke Milne, Dean, College of Arts and Science and following direction from Dr. Jennifer Lang, Interim, Vice-Dean Academic, we've identified several courses from the College of Arts and Science that may meet this requirement. We are reaching out to ask if you have any concerns about potential increased demand for these courses. If you foresee any issues or have recommendations regarding the courses listed, please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

The courses we have referenced are as follows:

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- **SOC 341** – Institutional Racism and Indigenous Peoples

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
Trustin

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Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Trustin

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From: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Trustin,
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I invite you to reach out to the following Department Heads for the courses you've identified in their departments that might qualify:

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Kathryn Labelle – History
Terry Wotherspoon – Indigenous Studies
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Harley Dickinson – Sociology
Xulin Guo – Geography and Planning

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Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
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Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin:

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Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science
Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

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Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
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University of Saskatchewan

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Domes, Trustin

From: Wotherspoon, Terry
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:09 AM
To: Domes, Trustin
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Categories: Yellow Category

Hello Trustin,

Thank you for your message.

I see that the only Indigenous Studies course on this list is INDG 107.3 - we probably have the capacity to take on students if this course is listed for your program prerequisite, but before I commit to this can you provide me with some indication of the likely numbers of students involved.

Thanks,
Terry

Terry Wotherspoon
Acting Head, Indigenous Studies
Distinguished Professor
Professor of Sociology
University of Saskatchewan
1105 Arts Building I 9 Campus Drive
(306) 966-6925
http://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/TWotherspoon#/profile
Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: March 10, 2025 4:42 PM
To: Wotherspoon, Terry <terry.wotherspoon@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Wotherspoon,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

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- **KIN 306.3** – Introduction to Indigenous Wellness
- **SOC 341** – Institutional Racism and Indigenous Peoples

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
Trustin

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thank you for this helpful list of contacts, we will reach out to them and ensure proper alignment and see if anyone has any concerns.
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From: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Harley Dickinson – Sociology
Xulin Guo – Geography and Planning

From the College administration perspective, I am grateful that you are considering a large roster of courses that could fulfill this criteria rather than one sole course that could really feel a capacity impact.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
Ph: 306-966-6812

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
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From: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science
Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

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Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

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Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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Domes, Trustin

From: Stewart, Jesse
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:49 PM
To: Domes, Trustin
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Categories: Yellow Category

Dear Trustin,

Thank you for your email and checking in with us.
We do not have a problem with increased in enrolments, in fact we welcome it!

I would like to add *LING 114: Indigenous Languages and Stories Introduction to the Structure of Language* to this list, which also meets the ILR and is even better suited for increased enrollments than our LING 253 course, as LING 114 is already designed for high enrollments and is currently being offered with 300+ students.

Best,
Jesse

--
Jesse Stewart, PhD (he)
Professor
Department Head, Graduate Chair, Undergraduate Chair
Department of Linguistics
University of Saskatchewan
916 Arts Building
Saskatoon, SK Canada, S7N 5A5
+1(306).966.4183

stewart.jesse@usask.ca
http://jessestewart.net
I humbly and temporarily tread on and across la pachamama.

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:43 PM
To: Stewart, Jesse <stewart.jesse@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Stewart,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

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Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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From: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
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Sincerely,
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Domes, Trustin

From: Domes, Trustin
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:45 PM
To: Dickinson, Harley
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Dickinson,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

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To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
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Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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Professor, Department of Anthropology

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean

<dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Dr. Milne,

Hope you are doing well. As part of our Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program admissions requirements, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite. This aligns with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and ensuring our learners develop the foundational knowledge necessary to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

We are basing this approach on what the UGME MD program has done for their Indigenous Studies prerequisites. Additionally, this aligns with the TRC Health Calls to Action, which emphasize the need for health professionals to have stronger foundation in Indigenous health, history, and governance.

In our program materials, we have referenced the following courses currently offered through the College of Arts and Science as meeting this requirement:

> ANTH 202.3 Anthropological Approaches to Aboriginal Research in Canada, ANTH 480.3 Indigenous Peoples and Mental Health Anthropological and Related Perspectives, CHEP 819 Colonization and its Impact on Indigenous Peoples' Health and Healing, HIST 195.3 History Matters Indigenous Perspectives on Canadian History, HIST 266.3 History Wars Issues in Native Newcomer Relations, INDG 107.3 Introduction to Canadian Indigenous Studies, LING 253.3 Indigenous Languages of Canada, PLAN 445.3 Planning with Indigenous Communities, POLS 222.3 Indigenous Governance and Politics, KIN 306.3 Introduction to Indigenous Wellness, INDG — 200-Level, 300-Level, 400-Level, SOC 341 Institutional Racism and Indigenous People

To ensure appropriate alignment and consultation, CGPS has recommended that we connect with you regarding the use of these courses as prerequisites. We would appreciate any guidance you can provide on this matter and would be happy to discuss further at your convenience.

Please let me know a suitable time to connect, or if there is someone on your team who would be best positioned to discuss this with us. Looking forward to your thoughts.

Thank you,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

"Education is not simply helping someone to know something, but it is also helping that person become someone." Gloria Dall'Alba
"Small wins fuel transformative changes by leveraging tiny advantages into patterns that convince people that bigger achievements are within reach." Charles Huhigg

Domes, Trustin

From: Domes, Trustin
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 8:39 PM
To: Westman, Clinton
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Clinton,
I appreciate the information. I don't anticipate a lot of additional students as most students at USASK require an Indigenous Studies learning component for their bachelor degrees. We can monitor if there are any specific issues and hopefully as an institution we can increase the number of offerings as more and more professional programs in health and other areas are looking for this pre-requisite knowledge.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
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From: Westman, Clinton <clint.westman@usask.ca>
Sent: March 11, 2025 10:34 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello,

Thanks for your message. Anth 480 is unlikely to be offered again.

Anth 202 is likely to be offered every year but it consistently fills up due to meeting the same requirement in the Anthropology BA program and the College of Arts and Science program requirements more broadly. I'm unsure if we would be able to add more capacity in that class unless specific additional resources were provided.

Please let me know if you'd like to discuss further,

Clint Westman, PhD
Professor and Head

Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
Ph: 306-966-4179

From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: March 10, 2025 16:30
To: Westman, Clinton <clint.westman@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: FW: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Dr. Westman,

I hope this message finds you well. As part of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Saskatchewan, we have included a 3-credit unit Indigenous Studies prerequisite to align with the College of Medicine's commitment to social accountability, reconciliation, and equipping our learners with the foundational knowledge to work effectively with Indigenous patients and communities.

In consultation with Dr. Brooke Milne, Dean, College of Arts and Science and following direction from Dr. Jennifer Lang, Interim, Vice-Dean Academic, we've identified several courses from the College of Arts and Science that may meet this requirement. We are reaching out to ask if you have any concerns about potential increased demand for these courses. If you foresee any issues or have recommendations regarding the courses listed, please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

The courses we have referenced are as follows:

- **ANTH 202.3** – Anthropological Approaches to Aboriginal Research in Canada
- **ANTH 480.3** – Indigenous Peoples and Mental Health: Anthropological and Related Perspectives
- **CHEP 819** – Colonization and its Impact on Indigenous Peoples' Health and Healing
- **HIST 195.3** – History Matters: Indigenous Perspectives on Canadian History
- **HIST 266.3** – History Wars: Issues in Native-Newcomer Relations
- **INDG 107.3** – Introduction to Canadian Indigenous Studies
- **LING 253.3** – Indigenous Languages of Canada
- **PLAN 445.3** – Planning with Indigenous Communities
- **POLS 222.3** – Indigenous Governance and Politics
- **KIN 306.3** – Introduction to Indigenous Wellness
- **SOC 341** – Institutional Racism and Indigenous Peoples

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Kind regards,
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 2:40 PM
To: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thank you for this helpful list of contacts, we will reach out to them and ensure proper alignment and see if anyone has any concerns.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Sent: March 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Cc: A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Hello Trustin,
Thank you for reaching out as part of the consultation process. As you may anticipate, we have a lot of demand for courses within our College of Arts and Science students to fulfil the Indigenous Learning Requirement and the departments themselves can speak to any capacity issues that they might foresee with this proposal.
I invite you to reach out to the following Department Heads for the courses you've identified in their departments that might qualify:

Clinton Westman – Anthropology
Kathryn Labelle – History
Terry Wotherspoon – Indigenous Studies
Jesse Stewart – Linguistics
Neil Hibbert – Political Studies
Harley Dickinson – Sociology
Xulin Guo – Geography and Planning

From the College administration perspective, I am grateful that you are considering a large roster of courses that could fulfill this criteria rather than one sole course that could really feel a capacity impact.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information from me after you have reached out to the Department Heads.
Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Lang, Ph.D.
Interim Vice-Dean Academic
Professor, Music Education/Choral

University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts & Science Dean's Office, Arts 230
Ph: 306-966-6812

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Date: Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 4:06 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>, A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>, Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Thanks Dr. Milne for getting back to us on this so quickly. We look forward to hearing from Dr. Lang.
Trustin

Trustin Domes MD, MEd, MCPM, FRCSC
Associate Professor of Surgery
Academic Director, Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) Program
College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

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From: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2025 4:04 PM

To: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>; A&S Vice Dean Academic <asvicedean.academic@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Re: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

Dear Trustin:

Thank you for your message and bringing this to our attention. I have copied on my reply Vice Dean, Academic, Dr. Jennifer Lang, who can provide some guidance on how Arts and Science courses can be considered for meeting prerequisites in the MPAS program.

Sincerely,
Brooke

Brooke Milne, PhD
Dean, College of Arts & Science
Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science
Ph: 306-966-4232

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

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From: Domes, Trustin <trustin.domes@usask.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Milne, Brooke <brooke.milne@usask.ca>
Cc: Manoharan, Gayathri <gayathri.manoharan@usask.ca>; Arts & Science - Office of the Dean <dean.artsandscience@usask.ca>
Subject: Consultation on Indigenous Studies Prerequisite

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